鳴見なる
NARU NARUMI

★COMMENT★

YOUKAI, TOKYO, FOXES, AND GIRLS. BECAUSE IT'S MY FIRST SERIES I'VE INCLUDED A NUMBER OF THINGS THAT I LOVE. I HOPE THAT WE CAN GET ALONG BETTER FROM NOW ON. NICE TO MEET YOU ALL, PLEASE BE KIND!

東京★イノセント

Tokyo★Innocent

1

鳴見なる
NARU NARUMI

東京★イノセント
1
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GWC GANGAN WING COMICS

SQUARE ENIX

ISBN4-7575-1820-X
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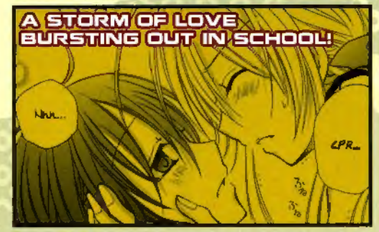
SQUARE ENIX.

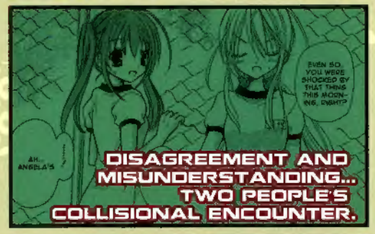
With the destiny of searching for a bride,
The youkai teenage boy came to Tokyo
From a small island: Hanzou.
A maiden who develops a youkai-attracting
constitution at 16: Ichijouji Mei.
With the youkai's heaven "Tokyo" as its stage,
Girl-Meets-Monster Love Comedy.

"Tokyo Innocent" curtains!!

次巻予告!!

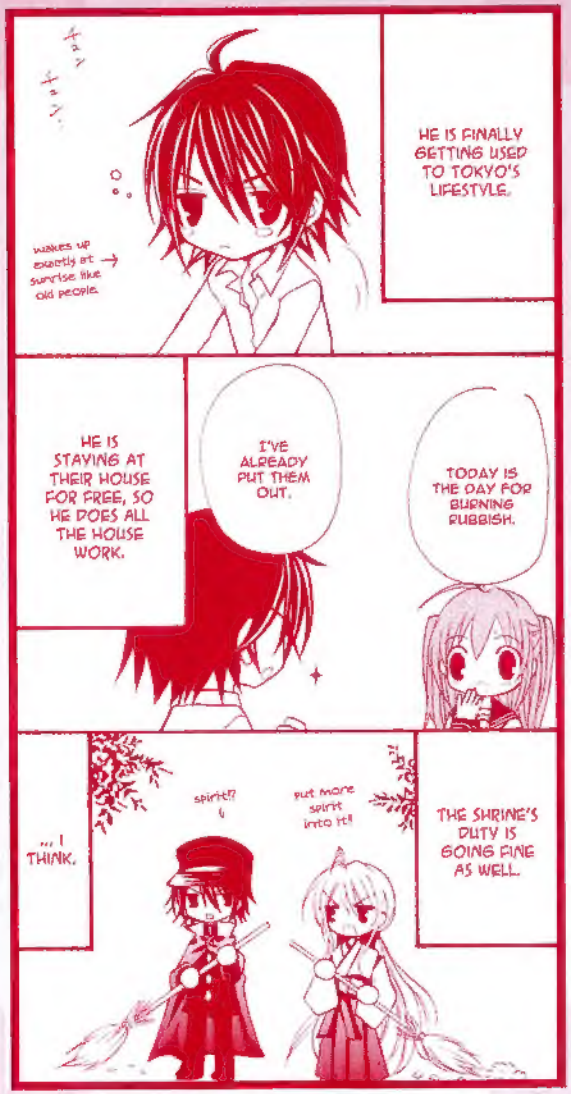
BUT I'M TELLING YOU, YOU CAN'T COME WITH ME, OK?
THAT'S RIGHT! "SCHOOL"
POOM NOW ON, IT'S GONNA BE "SCHOOL"?
THE BEGINNING OF THE CRISIS FALLS ON A QUIET AND PEACEFUL MORNING...




EVEN SO, YOU WERE SHOCKED BY THAT THING THIS MORNING, RIGHT?
AH, ANGELA'S
DISAGREEMENT AND MISUNDERSTANDING... TWO PEOPLE'S COLLISIONAL ENCOUNTER.

新キャラ続々登場の学園編を収録した
「東京★イノセント」第②巻
2007年初夏発売予定!!

★ A Day for Hanzou ★


wakes up exactly at sunrise like old people.
HE IS FINALLY GETTING USED TO TOKYO'S LIFESTYLE.
HE IS STAYING AT THEIR HOUSE FOR FREE, SO HE DOES ALL THE HOUSE WORK.
I'VE ALREADY PUT THEM OUT.
TODAY IS THE DAY FOR BURNING RUBBISH.
... I THINK.
spirit!?
put more spirit into it!
THE SHRINE'S DUTY IS GOING FINE AS WELL.

GWC GANGAN WING COMICS

東京★イノセント 1

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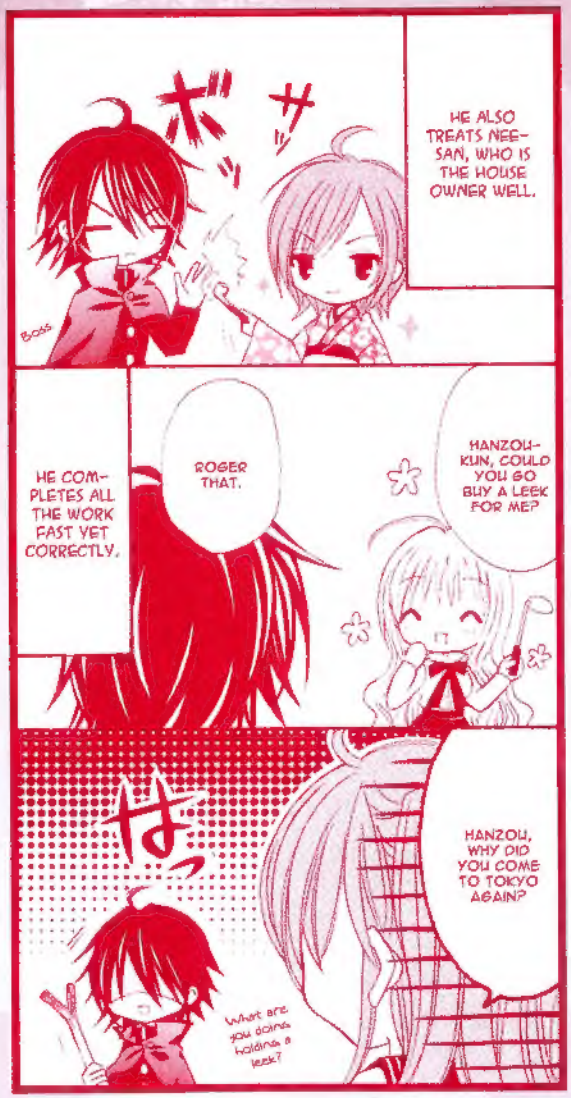
ボ ッ
HE ALSO TREATS NEE-SAN, WHO IS THE HOUSE OWNER WELL.
Boss
HE COM-PLETES ALL THE WORK FAST YET CORRECTLY.
ROGER THAT.
HANZOU-KUN, COULD YOU GO BUY A LEEK FOR ME?
な
HANZOU, WHY DID YOU COME TO TOKYO AGAIN?
What are you doing holding a leek?

SQUARE ENIX.

CARCAR WING COMICS
Tokyo★Innocent
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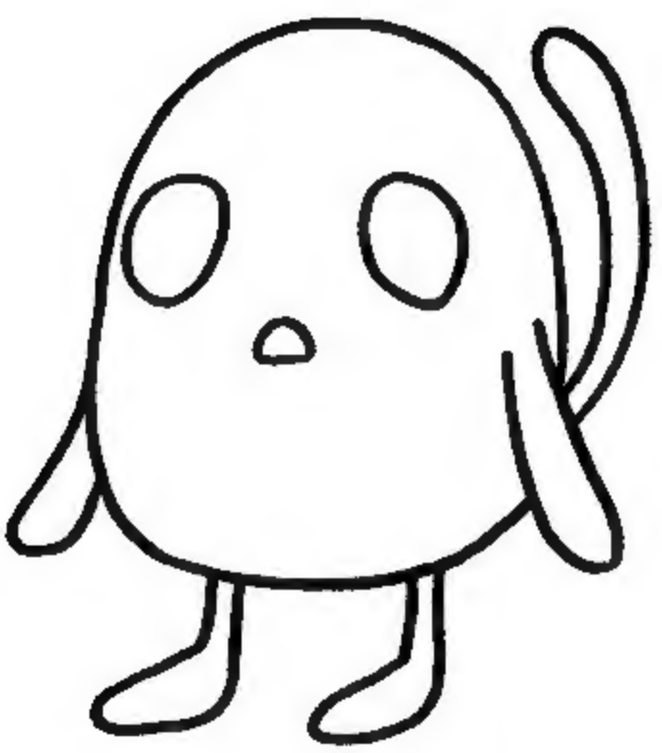
On that island, there once was an immense cherry tree...
When I was little,
I heard from my grandma the story of the
island-dwelling youkai fox
and a human girl.
Though more than 10 years has passed since then,
I still remember the story
distinctly.

CHAPTER I: "ATTACHED" MAIDEN
AND YOUKAI BOY



HEY MATE, ARE YOU USING YOUR HOLIDAY FOR A TRIP?

YEAH, SEEMS LIKE IT'S HIS FIRST TIME GOING ON THE MAIN LAND.
HE'S DRESSING WEIRD BUT I GUESS HE'S A STUDENT.

IS THAT HIM?
THE GUY WHO WANTS A RIDE TO THE PORT.

NOPE.

...this is my "Mission"

THE YOUKAI ON THIS ISLAND ARE ALL OLD

NO ONE CAN ACCOMPLISH THE TASK ASIDE FROM YOU

LEAVE THE ISLAND, COMMUNE TO THE MAINLAND,

AND BRING BACK A BRIDE WHOM YOU DEEM SUITABLE

ON THE VERGE OF EXTINCTION

WE OF THE WHITE FOX CLAN ARE JUST LIKE THE OTHER YOUKAI.

I WILL NOT RAISE THE QUESTION OF RACE

IN THESE HARD TIMES

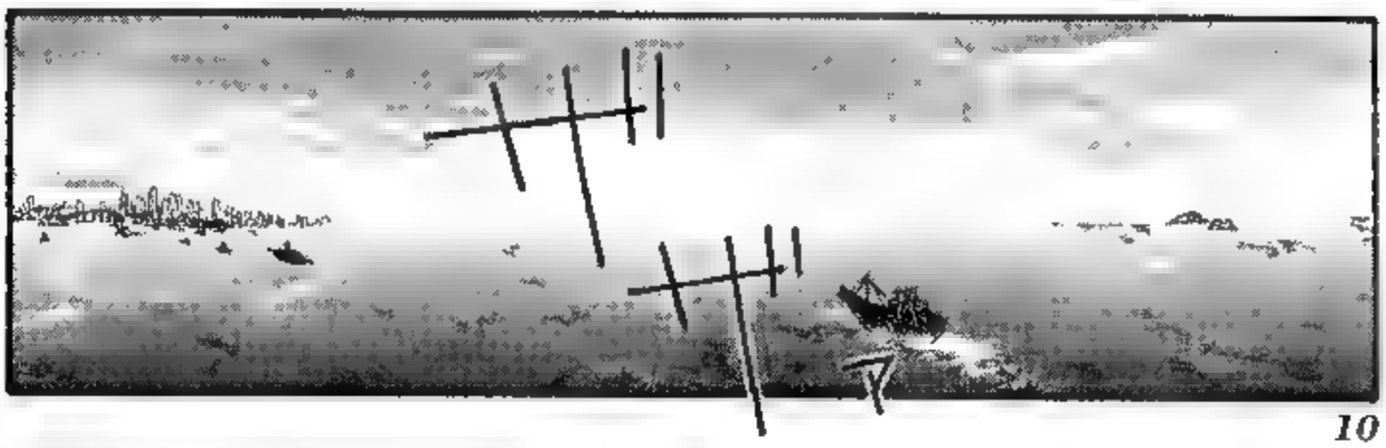
YOUR BRIDE MUST BE A WOMAN WHO IS STRONG BEAUTIFUL

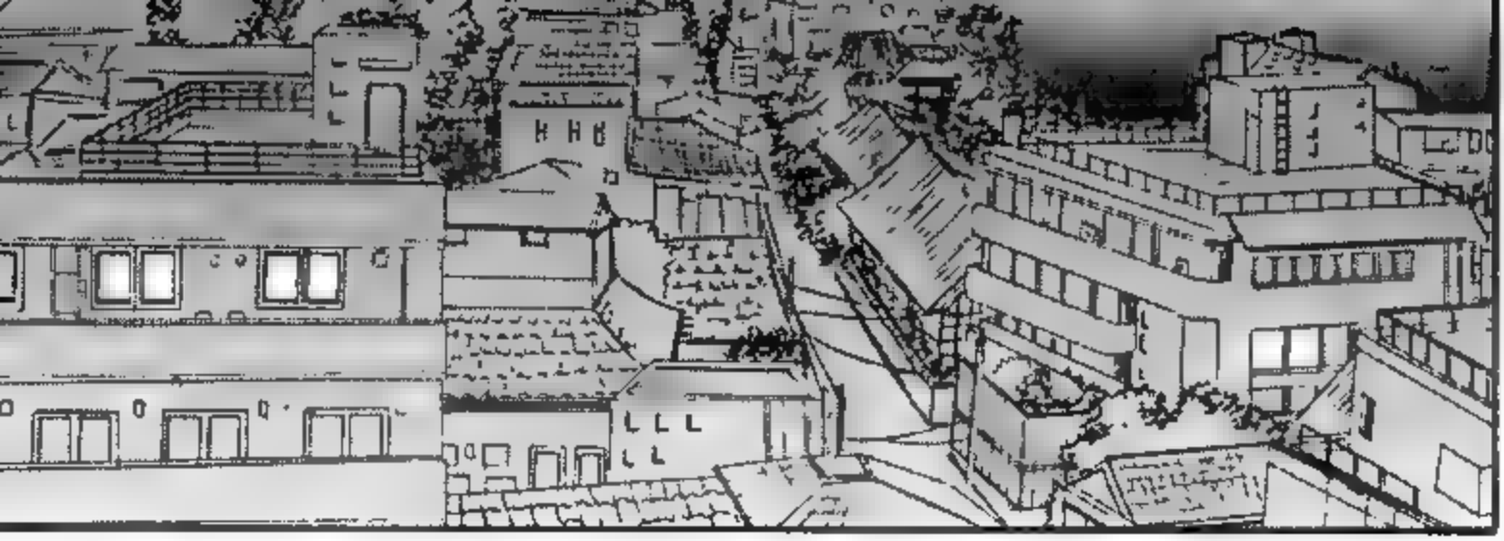
IF THESE CONDITIONS ARE FULFILLED THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEMS.

HARD-WORKING AND KIND

I UNDER-
STAND
YOU
HAVE NO
RIGHT TO
REFUSE.
BECAUSE
YOU ARE...
YOU
LEAVE AT
DAWN.
I'LL BRING
BACK A
BRIDE WHO
FULFILLS THE
CONDITIONS
NO MATTER
WHAT.
YES,
YES,
THIS IS A
MISSION...
ポカン...
?
?
What?
What?

I WILL.
HMM, WELL~
WE DON'T
REALLY UN-
DERSTAND
BUT DO YOUR
BEST, BRO!!

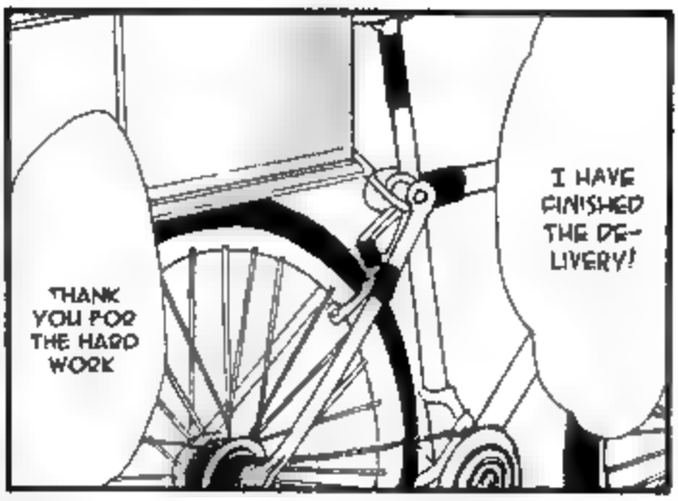




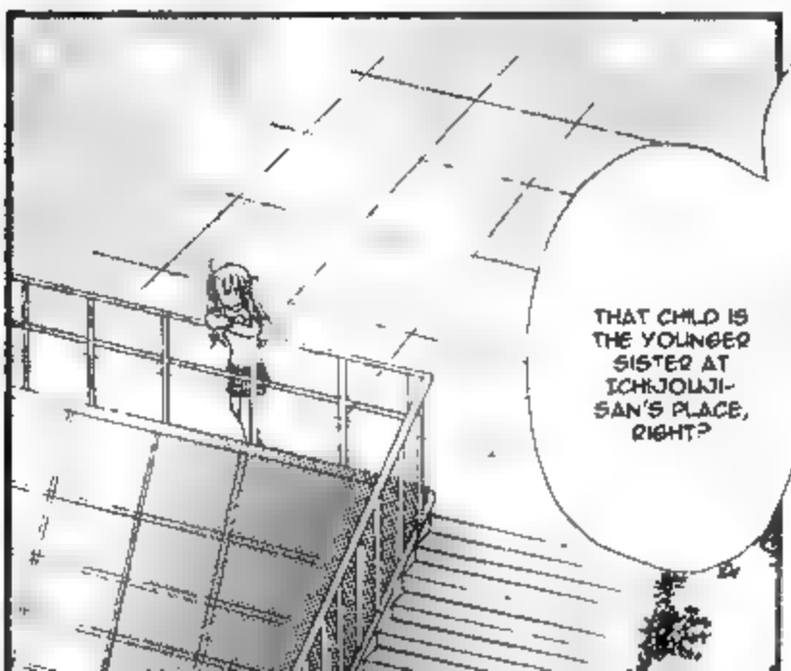
ギコ
ギコ
はぁ、
JUST ONE MORE HOUSE.

GOOD MORN-ING!!
THANKS AS USUAL, MEI-CHAN.
GOOD LUCK WITH WORK!

HERE, MEI-CHAN,
YOUR WAGES AND THE USUAL NOTEBOOK.


I HAVE FINISHED THE DELIVERY!
THANK YOU FOR THE HARD WORK

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!


AH.
THAT CHILD IS THE YOUNGER SISTER AT ICHIJOUJI-SAN'S PLACE, RIGHT?

WON'T THAT CHILD MAKE A GOOD WIFE IN THE FUTURE?
SHE'S CUTE AND SO HARD-WORKING.

MY NAME IS ICHIJOUJI MEI.
I'VE ONLY RECENTLY TURNED 16.
A CUP OF MILK AFTER WORK IS THE BEST!
GULP GULP

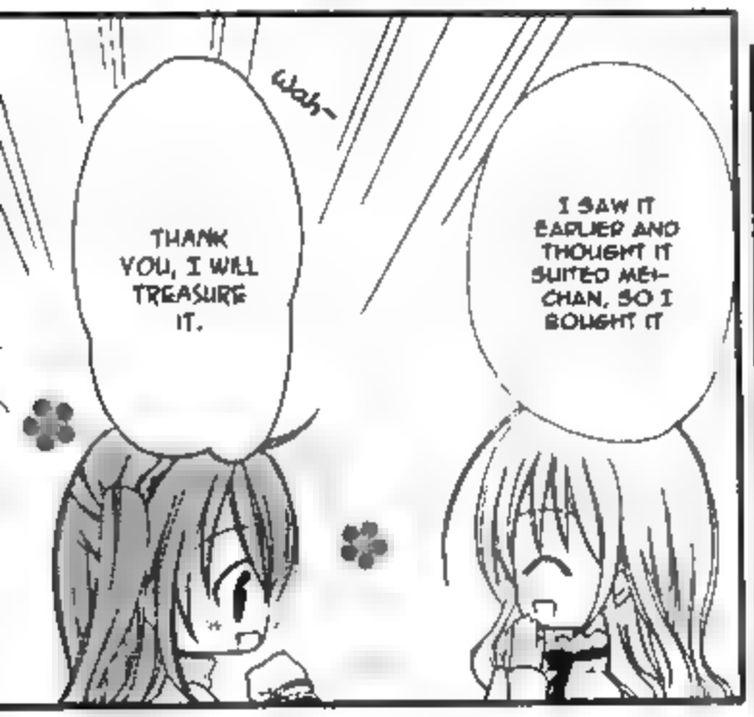
WELCOME BACK~
MY ELDER SISTER, SUZUKO, IS A WORLD FAMOUS AUTHOR.
HER BOOKS ARE ABOUT NOTHING BUT "YOUKAI"
ONEE-CHAN, HAVE YOU SPENT THE NIGHT WRITING AGAIN?
...WELL, LET'S PUT IT THIS WAY: SHE HAS SEVERE YOUKAI MANIA.
I bought it on TV shopping
Unagi
COME ON, ANGELA'S MADE A REALLY GOOD BREAKFAST FOR US~
But it's Onee-chan's turn to make breakfast, isn't it!?
Apart from your job, you laze around doing nothing.

ANGELA'S THE GERMAN WHO'S CURRENTLY LIVING IN OUR HOUSE.
IT SEEMS THAT SHE'S THE GRAND-DAUGHTER OF ONE OF GRANDMA'S ACQUAIN-TANCES BUT...
(by the way, she's fluent in Japanese)
AFTER ALL, IT IS MY JOB TO HELP SUZUKO-SAN.
IT'S OKAY-MEI-CHAN.
I WAS WONDERING, OF ALL THE THINGS YOU CAN DO, WHY DO YOU WANNA WORK AT ONEE-CHAN'S PLACE?
BECAUSE I LIKE THE BOOKS SUZUKO-SAN WROTE
.....
ANGELA'S ARRIVAL WAS QUITE SUDDEN.
.....?

Guten Tag
Because of what?
SO, BECAUSE OF THAT, THIS GIRL IS GOING TO BE LIVING WITH US.
3 days ago.
MEI, HAPPY 16TH BIRTHDAY
COME TO THINK OF IT, MEI,
WHEN WE SAW THOSE FOREIGN PORCELAIN DOLLS ON T.V., YOU SAID YOU WANTED ONE RIGHT?
WHAT WHAT? ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT PRESENTS?
IF I MANAGE TO SAVE 100 MILLION YEN BY MYSELF, I CAN DO IT RIGHT? - LIVE BY MYSELF!
IF YOU HAVE MANAGED TO SAVE THAT MUCH THAT IS.
THESE PAST 16 YEARS,
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN TWIRLED AROUND MY WHIMSICAL ONEE-CHAN'S LITTLE FINGERS.
NEE, YOU STILL REMEMBER THE PROMISE, DON'T YOU?
IS MEI-CHAN GOING TO LEAVE?
BUT IT IS SUCH A WONDERFUL HOUSE.
Wonderful!?

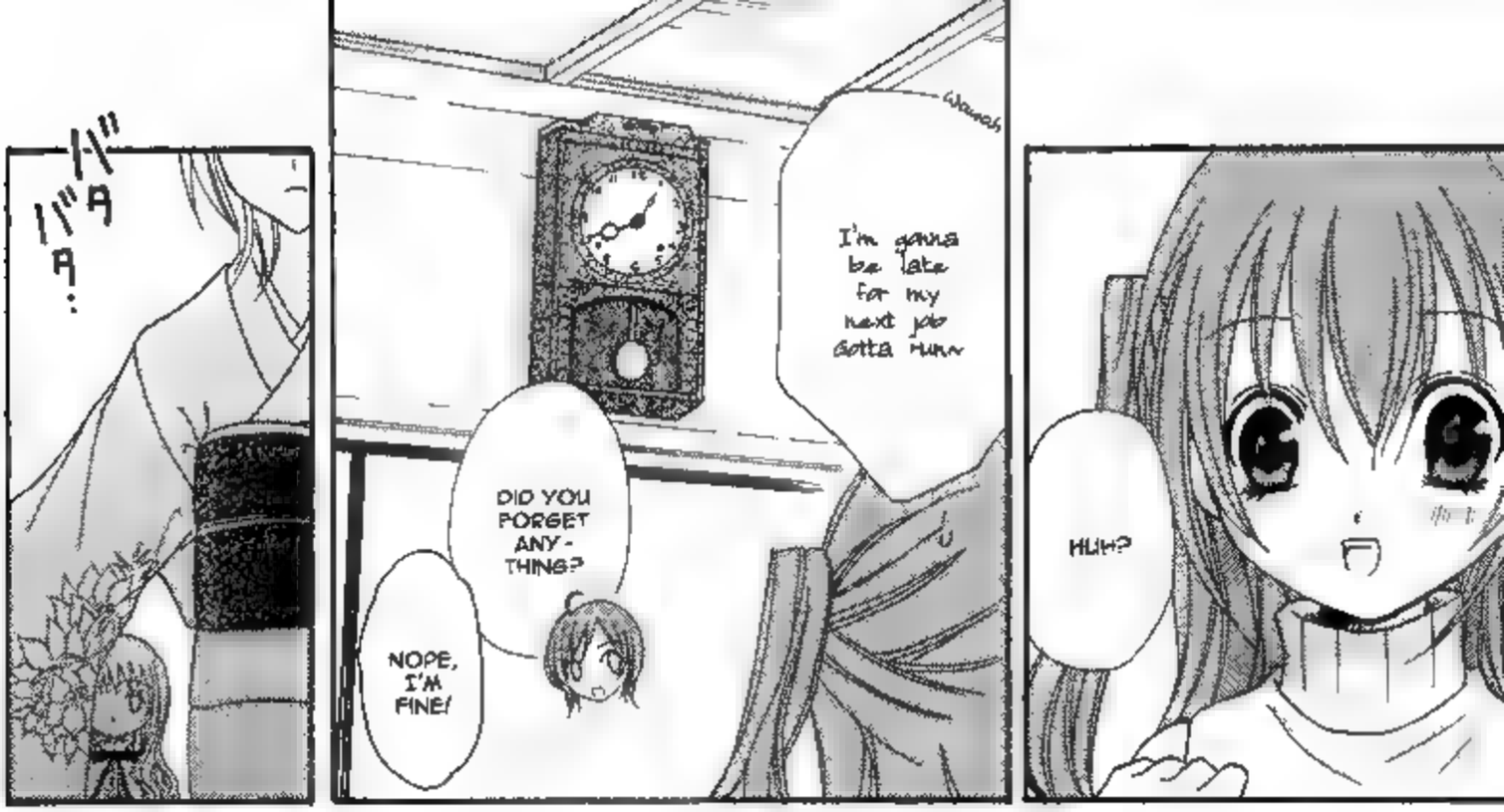
IN WHAT WAY!!?
GRANDMA AND THE OTHERS STAYING OUT IS A GOOD THING, BUT...
BUT MY SISTER CHANGED THE HOUSE AND ADDED MORES STORIES TO IT WITHOUT OTHERS PERMISSION.
ど"ど"ど"ん
And neighbors call it the "Youkai Mansion"!?
A youkai there!
A youkai here!!
A youkai there near me again!!!
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S SMALL, MY DREAM IS TO LIVE SURROUNDED BY CUTE LITTLE THINGS AND FURNITURE.
NORMAL PEOPLE JUST GET USED TO IT, EH?
Why ask me...
If you dislike something, you dislike something!

I can't stand yuuka and stuff!
Ume-chan and Chaa-chan?
Um. somehow it seems to have gotten cold lately.
Have I caught a cold?
Mei-chan.
ぴとこっ


Wah~
I saw it earlier and thought it suited Mei-chan, so I bought it
Thank you, I will treasure it.

Eh.
You're giving me this?

Please, try to keep it on at all times, ok?


I'm gonna be late for my next job Gotta run
Woosh
DID YOU FORGET ANY-THING?
NOPE, I'M FINE!
HUH?

THAT BRACELET JUST NOW...
ACTS AS A TALISMAN AGAINST EVIL, RIGHT?
ANYWAYS, IT'S GOOD THAT SHE'S CALMED DOWN, HM?

VAGUE-LY,
ALTHOUGH OBAA-CHAN CAN SEE THEM CLEARLY

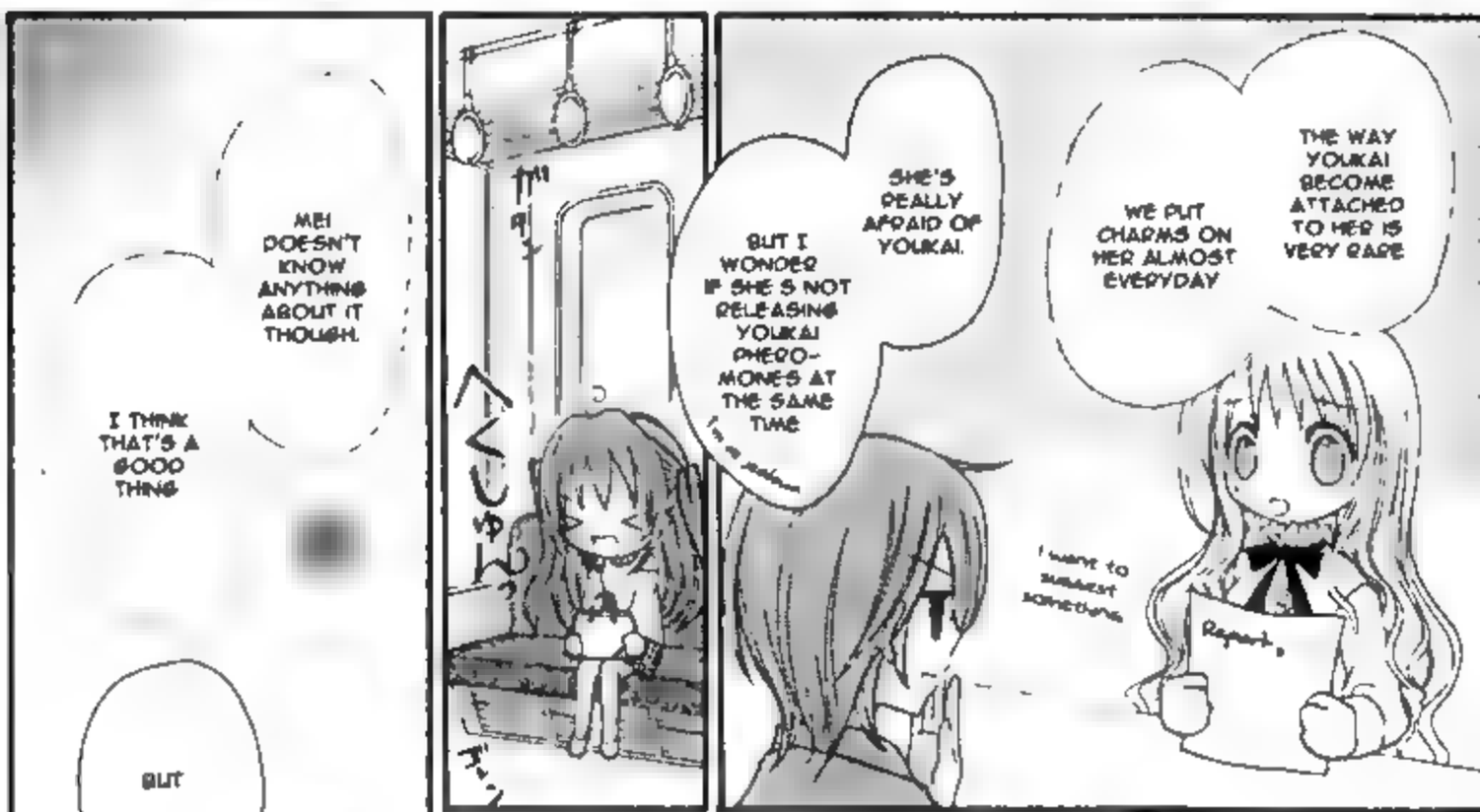
...BUT FROM THE LOOKS OF IT,
MEI DEFI-NITELY WON'T BELIEVE IT, EH?

JUST BEFORE, THAT LITTLE ONE AT-TACHED TO MEI WAS ROLLING ITS EYES
SUZUKO-SAN, YOU CAN SEE SPECTERS AND THINGS RIGHT?
キュウ

IT IS GOOD THAT OBAA-CHAN HAD CONNEC-TIONS TO THE EXORCIST ASSOCIA-TION.
BECAUSE FOR SOME REASON, IT S SAID THAT GIRLS BORN IN OUR FAMILY..
ALL START TO ATTRACT YOUKAI WHEN THEY TURN 16.
THAT, AND ALSO THE FACT YOU'RE ACTUALLY A PROFESSIONAL EXORCIST.
ACTUALLY BOTH MY MOTHER
AND I WERE LIKE THAT AS WELL.
WELL, EVEN THOUGH I SAY "AT-TACHED", THEIR MINOR MISCHIEF NOWADAYS IS REALLY QUITE HARMLESS.
THAT'S WHAT'S CALLED THE YOUKAI'S "MORAL CODE"
THOUGH VERY RARELY THERE UN-USUALLY FIERCE ONES TOO.
*In my circum-stances, its link to my job (makes me quite thankful

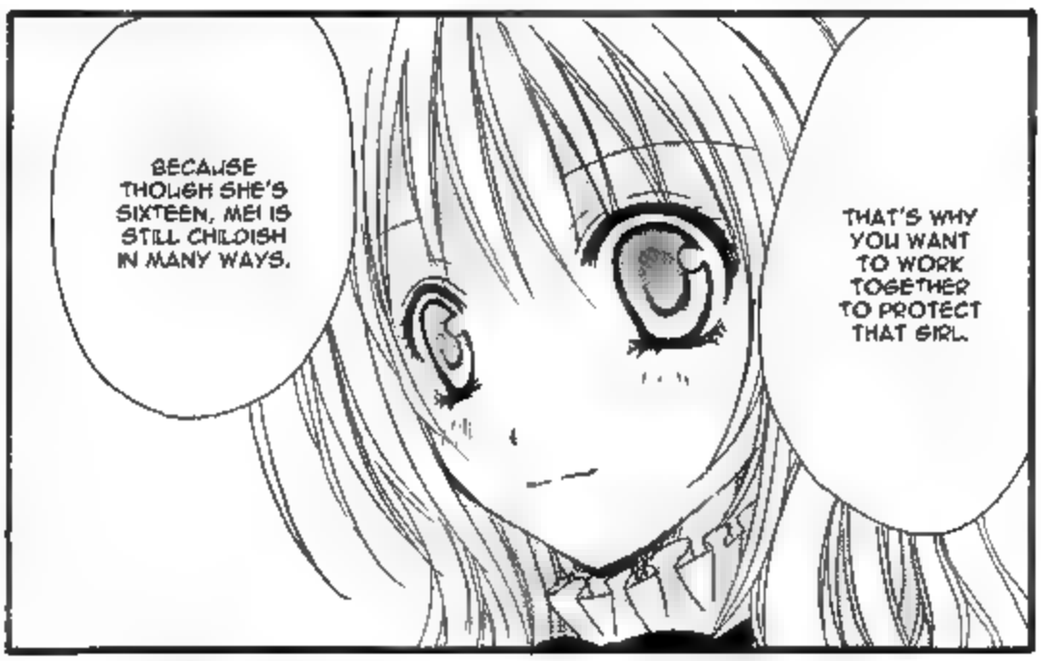
ACCORDINGLY, AROUND MEI'S BIRTHDAY, YOUKAI BEGAN TO APPEAR AROUND HER
BUT IN HER CASE, IT'S WEIRD

SHE'S TOO FAVORED BY YOUKAI
It's true
Isn't it?


MEI DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT THOUGH.
I THINK THAT'S A GOOD THING
BUT
BUT I WONDER IF SHE'S NOT RELEASING YOUKAI PHERO-MONES AT THE SAME TIME
SHE'S REALLY AFRAID OF YOUKAI.
WE PUT CHARMS ON HER ALMOST EVERYDAY
THE WAY YOUKAI BECOME ATTACHED TO HER IS VERY RARE
Repeat.

WHEN AN ORDINARY PERSON COMES TO HAVE A POWER WHICH THEY DID NOT HAVE BEFORE,
THERE MUST BE A REASON.
PERHAPS IT IS SOME-THING,
THAT'S EXTREMELY TERRIBLE AND DIFFICULT TO CONFRONT.

AND IT'S ALSO PART OF OBAA-CHAN'S WIL...


BECAUSE THOUGH SHE'S SIXTEEN, MEI IS STILL CHILDISH IN MANY WAYS.
THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO WORK TOGETHER TO PROTECT THAT GIRL.

...THAT'S RIGHT
SO I GUESS SUZUKO-SAN BECAME A YOUKAI-STORY WRITER DUE TO YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S INFLUENCE.

IF YOU'RE
THERE ARE
AN IMMENSE
ON THAT
ISLAND.

On that island, a human maiden and a youkai youth fell in love
While those around them were opposed to the idea
They soon came to love each other with equal passion
Then...
What happened to the lovers after that?
Thanks obaa-chan,
You gave me another idea for a novel plot

THE NEXT STOP IS TOKYO.

ゴーン

ガタン

TOKYO.

OH NO, I NEARLY OVER-SLEPT

ぱち

Complimentary tissue

THANK YOU. PLEASE VISIT OUR STORE!

OH NO, I'M NOT ALLOWED TO WEAR ACCESSO-RIES DURING WORK

I'd better take this off

SO THIS IS TOKYO.
IT'S PRETTY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD
HUMANS IN TOKYO DON'T CARE ABOUT OTHERS, SO IT'S EASY FOR MONSTERS TO BLEND IN.
What a weird look
Fighting?
Cosplayer?
ARE THE RUMOURS TRUE?
HERE YOU GO, PLEASE COME VISIT OUR STORE~!

Eh?
WHAT'S THIS?

I HAVE A FEW QUES-TIONS
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
ARE YOU SINGLE?
DO YOU HAVE EX-PERIENCE GIVING BIRTH?
W... what??
Is he flirting!!?
But somehow it's weird

AND SHE ISN'T BEAU-TIFUL.
(Rather she looks scary)
HMM, WHAT ABOUT THE ELIGIBLE TRAITS...
SHE LOOKS FRAIL AND NOT VERY STRONG.
SHE MUST BE AN EXTREMELY LAZY PERSON...
MORE IMPORTANTLY, A GIRL OF MARRIAGE-ABLE AGE WAN-DERING AIMLESSLY ON THE STREET IN FLIMSY CLOTHES AT THIS TIME.

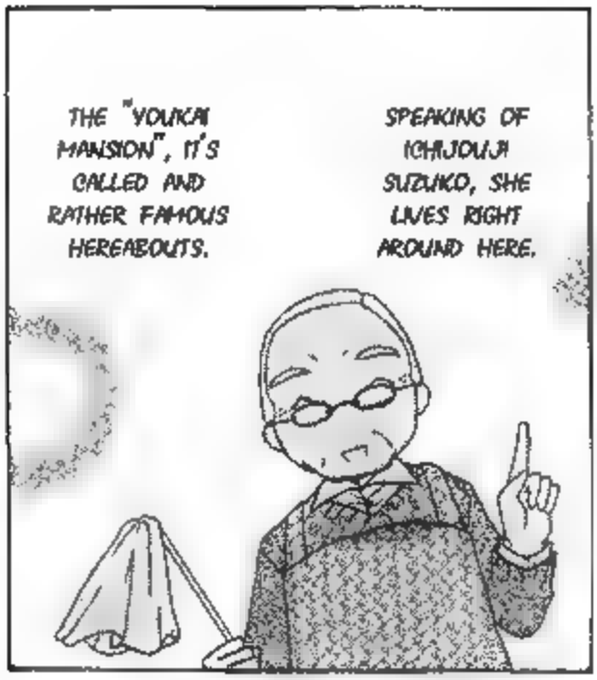
THERE'S SOME-THING
Umm
IS THIS HUMAN AN ATTACK...?
ぎゅいっ
ぷらーん
Wha-
……。

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!!?
CLEARLY, MARRIAGE IS OUT OF THE QUESTION.
..what the hell was that? that creep..
ぜはー
すた
すた
WHERE'S THE TISSUE?
BOSS!?

NO WAY!!! YOU'RE NOT MY TYPE
I'M SORRY~ BUT I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE TOKYO
SORRY BUT I'M ALREADY MARRIED

LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NO WAY I'LL FIND A BRIDE BEFORE THE DAY'S OUT

THIS IS_


THE "YOUKAI MANSION", IT'S CALLED AND RATHER FAMOUS HEREABOUTS.
SPEAKING OF ICHIJOUJI SUZUKO, SHE LIVES RIGHT AROUND HERE.

Amazing... What a style, brimming with presence.
It's as if you can see the youkai right before your eyes.
ARE YOU A FAN OF HERS AS WELL, SIR?

AS SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS YOUKAI, SHE MAY BE WILLING TO GIVE ME A PLACE TO STAY.
Just received
Map

きょろ ?
きょろ

ALL THINGS ASIDE, BECAUSE OF THAT, YOU ONLY POSSESS HALF THE POWERS OF A NORMAL VOLKAL
IT'S TROUBLESOME.
IF I MESS WITH THAT THING.
I'D BETTER NOT MEET IT'S GAZE
Ah, geez.

The thoughts of a middle school student avoiding delinquents.

Why is that guy in front of my house?

I can't believe it!!

I lost my job 'cause of that guy.

THIS AFTER-NOON'S...

HEY, YOU THERE!!

BUT I WAS LOOKING FOR *SUZUKO ICHIJOUJI* FOR SOME-THING..

YOUR HOUSE?

WHAT BUSI-NESS DO YOU HAVE AT MY HOUSE!?

Answer me or I'll call the police.

ガシっ
CALM DOWN.
IT'S A MISUNDERSTANDING!
NOT THE LEAST CONCERNED ABOUT HAVING BOOSTED ME!
WHAT'S WITH THIS ARROGANT ATTITUDE, P
WITH ONEE-CHAN?
YOUR BROTHER?
THAT'S PERFECT TAKE ME TO HER
ドカ

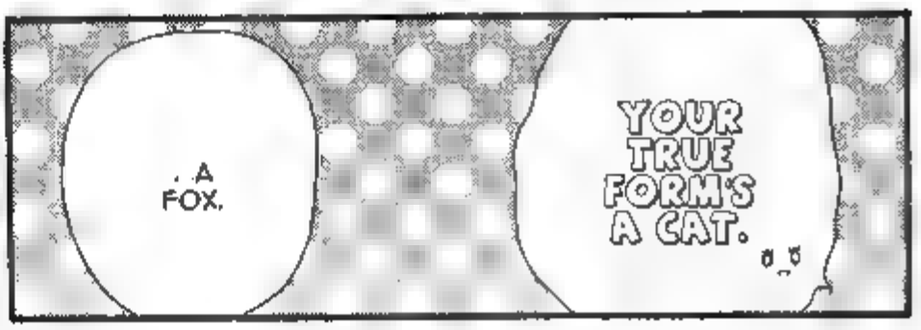
Wait...
Wait a minute!!
What the heck~
Eh

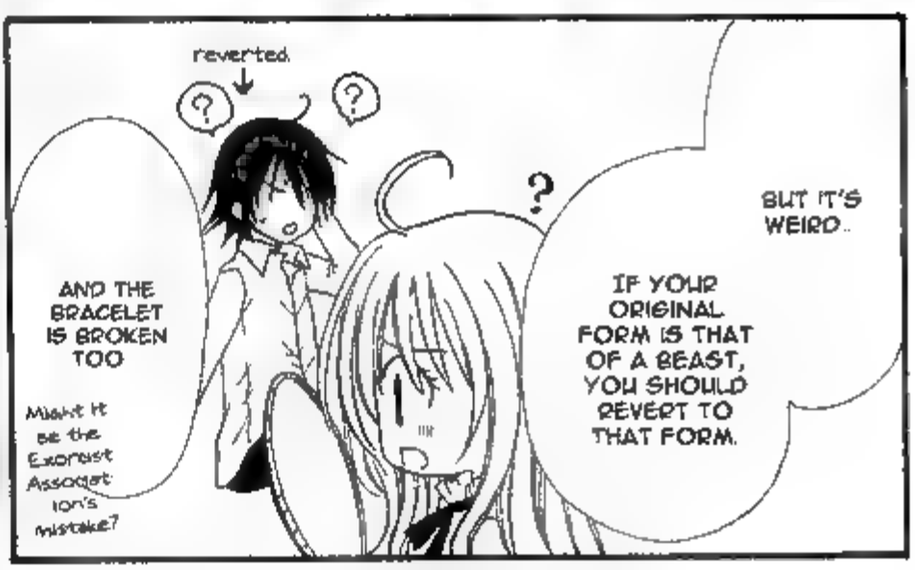
UM.
IS IT OK IF I CHECK SOMETHING WITH YOU?
Foreigner?
YOU'RE MR YOUKAI, RIGHT?
ARE YOU TIRED?
WHERE AM I?
ガバッ

and because it's my job.
NOW, LET ME GREET YOUR TRUE APPEARANCE PROPERLY.
IT WON'T HURT AT ALL.
カサッ
THAT BRACELET DEFLECTS YOUKAI ENERGY~

!?

COULD IT BE... YOU'RE...


A FOX.
YOUR TRUE FORM'S A CAT.


reverted.
AND THE BRACELET IS BROKEN TOO
Might it be the Exorcist Association's mistake?
IF YOUR ORIGINAL FORM IS THAT OF A BEAST, YOU SHOULD REVERT TO THAT FORM.
BUT IT'S WEIRD..

ガラッ
HALF...
IS IT YOU WHO SAID YOU'VE COME TO VISIT ME?
IF I WERE TEN YEARS YOUNGER
It's too bad.

I UNDER-STAND THE GENERAL PICTURE.
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO LIVE IN MY HOUSE, IF YOU LIKE.

RATHER,
FOX-YOUKAI HAVE LONG BEEN SAID TO BE USED BY THE GODS.
THEY'RE COURTEOUS CREATURES BELIEVED TO BRING HAPPI-NESS TO HOMES THEY INHABIT

IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT SUZUKO-SAN?
WHAT ABOUT MEI-CHAN?
HE'S A HARMLESS YOUKAI ISN'T HE?

THAT AN-NOYING WOMAN?
"MEI"..

AS FOR MEI, I'LL CONVINCE HER! WHERE IS SHE?
SHE'S SHOWER-ING RIGHT NOW..

NO WAY!

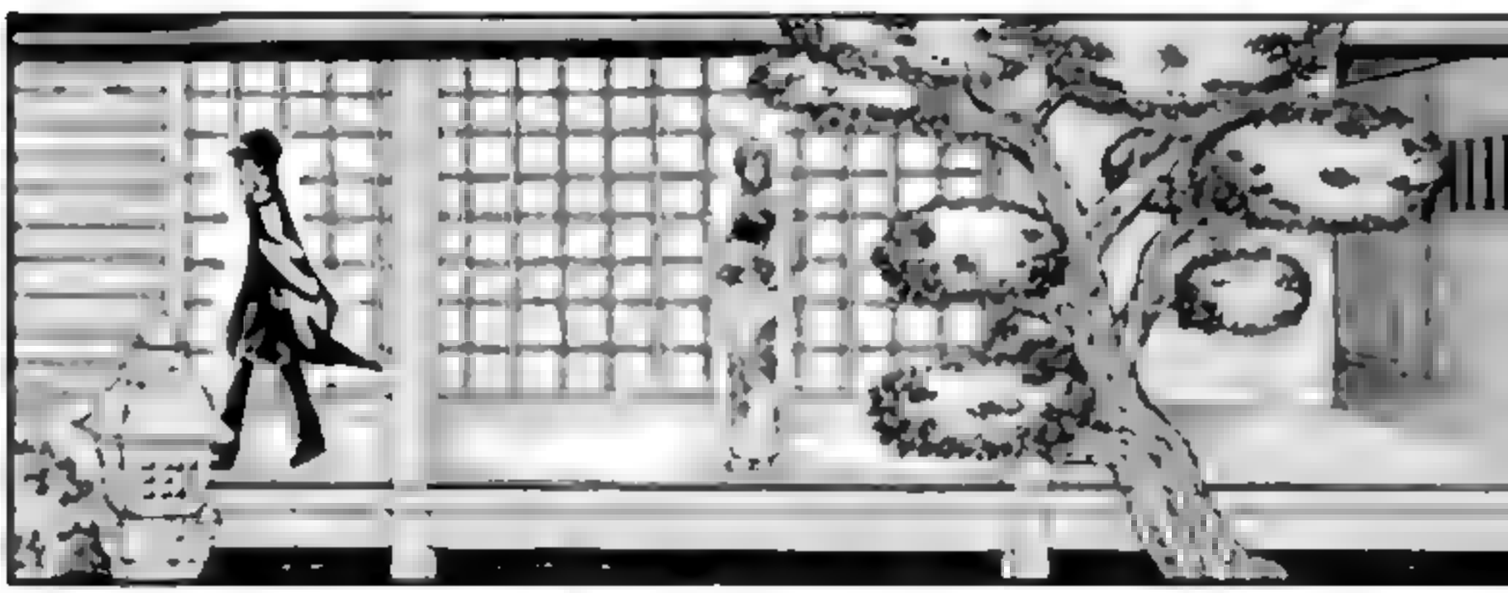
We shouldn't live with a suspicious guy like this, right!?
HE'S FATHER'S COUSIN'S SON, HANZOU-KUN.
HIS RELATIVES ALL PASSED AWAY HE JUST HAPPENED TO PASS BY OUR HOUSE.
What kind of crappy excuse is that?
And you call yourself an author!
I can't believe it

SPEAK TRUTHFULLY.

...FINE, THEN LEMME ASK YOU...
WHO ARE YOU?
THERE'S THAT INCIDENT DURING THE DAY TOO
ANSWER MY QUESTION FIRST OR I WON'T CONSENT TO IT.

Angela doesn't like it either right?
Whatever Suzuko-san decides is ok with me
.....
innocent look.

NO WAY! YOU CAN'T TELL THE TRUTH
IF YOU WANT TO STAY HERE YOU MUST LIE
BECAUSE ME HATES YOU!!
Wait! Where are you going!?
YOU HAD NO OBLIGATION TO LET ME STAY FROM THE START
I'M LEAVING BEFORE I BECOME A NUISANCE
IS IT REALLY OK?



EVEN THOUGH IT'S MAY, IT'S STILL COLD OUTSIDE
IS HANZOU-KUN GOING TO CAMP OUT TODAY?

むーん
...Why am I caring so much anyway?
I didn't say that he had to leave right away.
I still haven't forgiven him about this afternoon...
Is it really that bad to have your identity known!?

BUT, IT SEEMED LIKE HE DIDN'T TOUCH ME.
I'm scared because of that but.

OR SHOULD I SAY IT IS TIME TO PREPARE THE GUEST ROOM?
がた。

I'm going to the convenience store!!
BE CAREFUL OUT THERE.

MEI-CHAN, YOUR COAT.
THANKS.

HEY IF YOU DON'T HURRY YOU'LL LOSE SIGHT OF HANZOU-SAN

I told you I'm going to the ammo-nitrate dump

IT'S OKAY

AH

UHUH I'M SORRY

I BROKE THAT BRACELET YOU TOOK SUCH PAINS TO GET ME IN JUST ONE DAY

ガチャ

ガチャ

IT'S INCREDIBLY QUIET OUT HERE

DON'T THE HUMAN IN TOKYO SLEEP?

Hanzou.

You're still around here, aren't you?
Come out.
"MEI"?
SHE IS BEING TARGETED...
BY THAT THING FROM BEFORE.

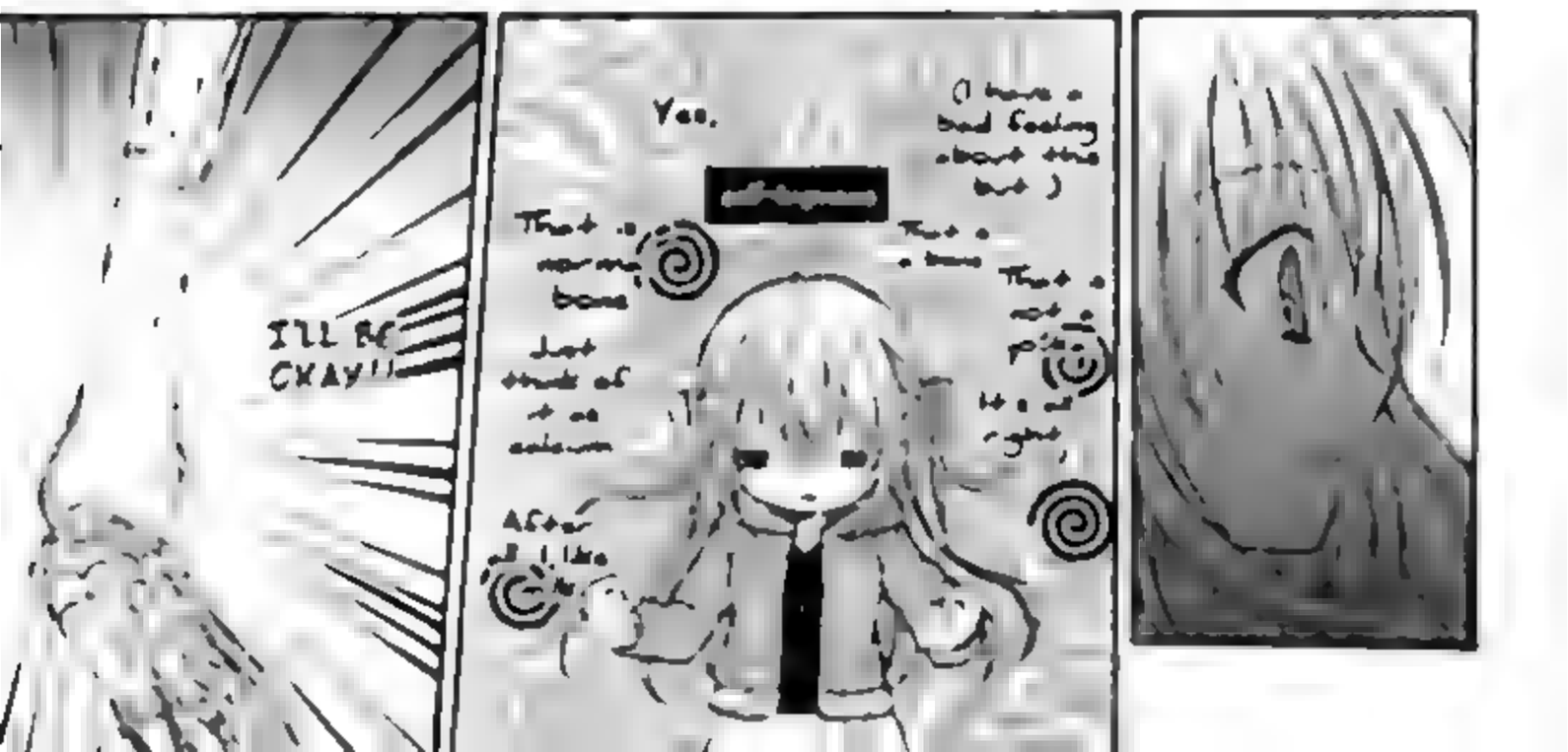
Hurry up and get outta here!!
Shut up!
Hmmm.
Could it be...
Huh?
Eve...
.....
THIS IS BAD...
Is that the attitude to someone who came and search for you.
What do you mean by that?
.....
.....
.....
ARE OUR ENOUGH TO KEEP HIM HERE AT MOST...
MY YOUR'S POWERS

What are you talking about?
Eeeeh!?
What the...? What's wrong all of a sudden!?

HEY.
ARE THE BURNT PORTIONS BECOMING VISIBLE?

WHAT'S OVER THERE?
IF I DON'T DO ANYTHING, WE'RE BOTH IN TROUBLE RIGHT?

"RUN AWAY" YOU SAY, IS THERE SOMETHING HERE?
WHAT IS THIS?
A FOOT?



Teeii
YES! A DIRECT HIT!!
GOOD THING MY DELIVERY JOB KEEP MY LEGS WELL-TRAINED
DOKA
It broke
You gotta be kidding.
IT HAD THE OPPOSITE EFFECT.
BUT, A WEAK SPOT HAS APPEARED.

NOW.

It's burning! A big skeleton is burning~!!
Did you finish it off?
NO, I'VE ONLY PURIFIED IT
IT WON'T STAY TRANQUIL FOR TOO LONG.
Oh well
AT LEAST IT WONT BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING BAD FOR A WHILE

YOU'RE HURT..
See—— What did I tell you?
Wait a minute, will ya!!
NOW I'LL...
Any ways
ah, hey
Tilly

ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED JUST NOW AND MY CIRCUMSTANCES.
...AREN'T YOU GONNA ASK?
AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, YOUR WOUNDS DON'T SEEM TOO DEEP.

AH, BUT, JUST ONE QUESTION
After that, I'll ask you to tell me carefully and in great detail.
Take care of your wounds first!

WHY DID YOU HELP ME?

AHA

IF I RECEIVE A FAVOUR, NO MATTER WHAT IT IS, I MUST RETURN IT

ごそっ

JUST A THANKS FOR THIS.

The sound he took.

BUT IN ANY CASE.

.....

PART OF ME?

I WAS RIGHT YOU ARE WEIRD

WHAT IS THIS?

EVERY-THING.

THANK YOU FOR NOW.

Anyways, you can stay at my house today.

So let's go home!

stand up.

GYAAA

STRONG, BEAUTIFUL,

AN ELIGIBLE BRIDE MUST BE...

HARD-WORKING AND...

SHE MUST BE A KIND-HEARTED GIRL.

COME ON

I THINK THEY WILL BE COMING BACK SOON.

HELLO. SUZUKO-SAN?

YES.

OH MY,

LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NO NEED FOR ME TO APPEAR.

A BODY THAT CAN'T RETURN TO HIS ORIGINAL APPEARANCE.

!!

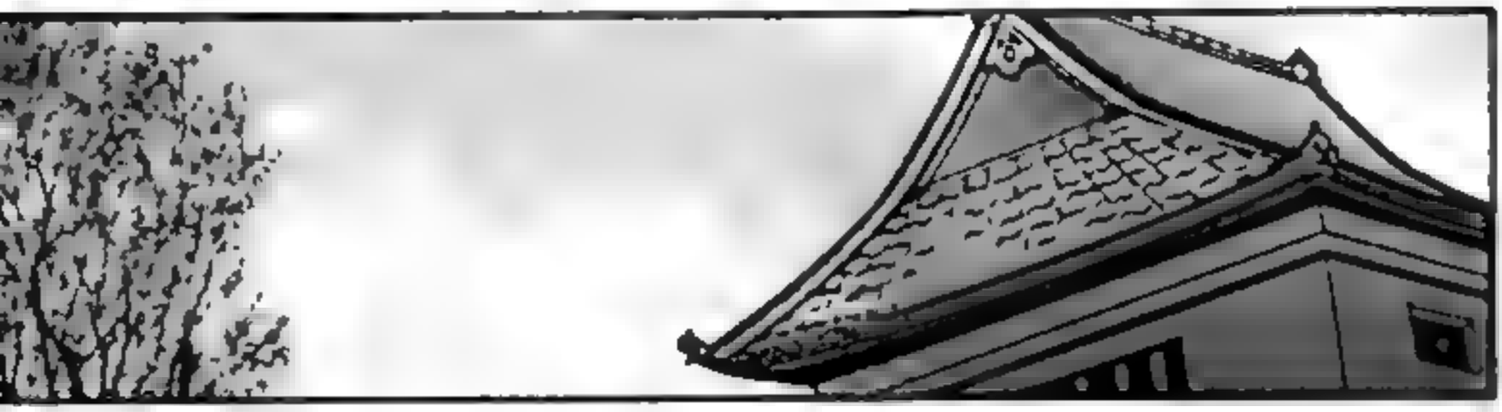
AN UNSTABLE POWER AND A PURIFYING FLAME

IT'S AS I THOUGHT.

ABOUT THAT

AND HAVE YOU DISCOVERED ANYTHING NEW REGARDING HIS IDENTITY?

A YOUKAI THAT BECOME A RULE
HE'S A HALF-YOUKAI
NO NOTHING AT ALL

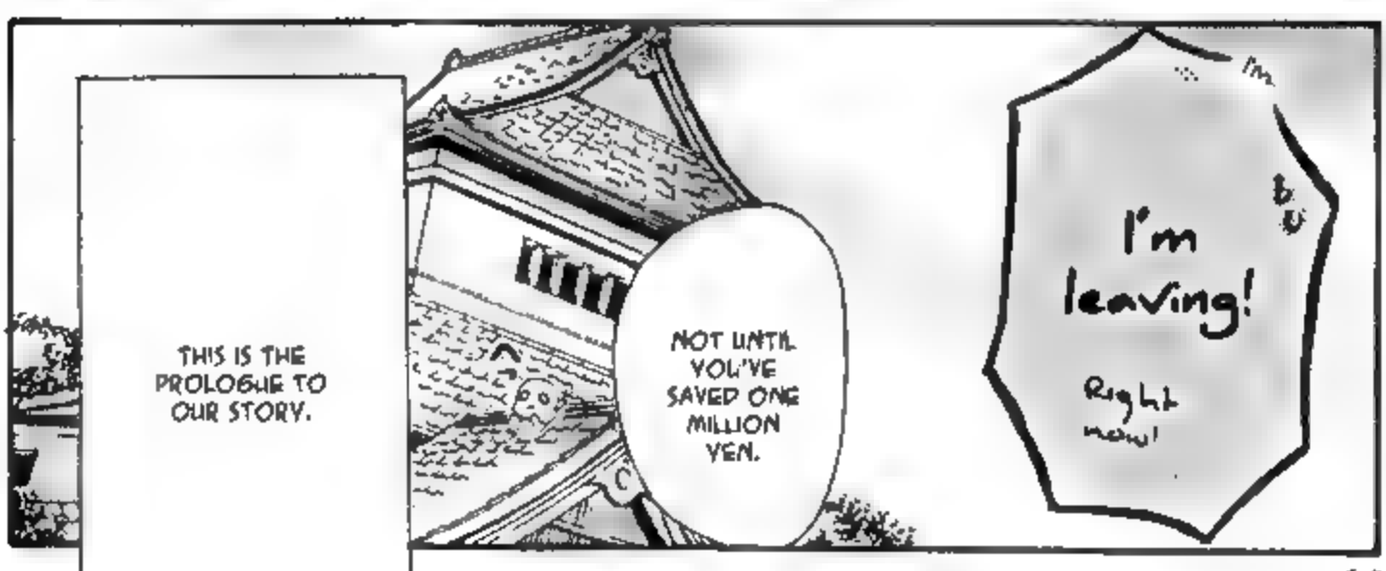


TALK?
AH! THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE SO TIRED WHEN YOU CAME BACK YESTERDAY YOU FELL ASLEEP RIGHT AWAY
ガばっ
YES THAT'S RIGHT IT'S ALL A DREAM
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TALK TO YOU
But today, there's no ordinary plans
AH! WAKE UP!

ANO HANZOU TOO
ANGELA.
COME ON EVERYONE, WAKE UP ALREADY

AS FOR ME...
Stop!!! Somehow I can imagine!
EVEN STRANGER THAN FICTION BUT...
THE GRANDMOTHER OF THIS FAMILY WAS THE FOUNDER..
IN GERMANY, THERE'S AN OFFICIAL EXORCIST ASSOCIATION.
Exorcist!?
THE TRUTH IS...
WHO DOES THAT?
YOUR ATTACHING ABILITIES?

Ugh...


I'm leaving!
Right now!
NOT UNTIL YOU'VE SAVED ONE MILLION YEN.
THIS IS THE PROLOGUE TO OUR STORY.

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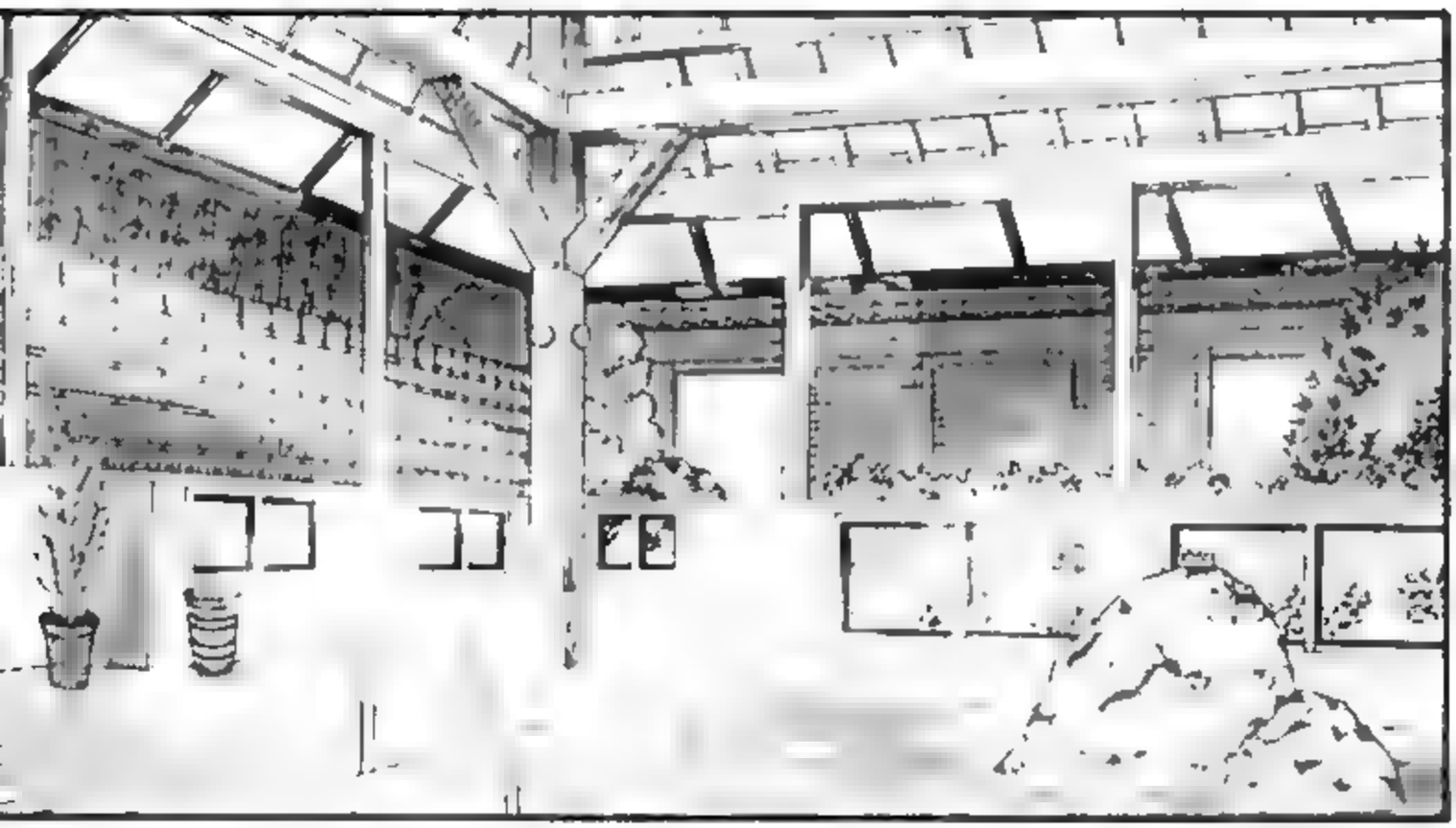
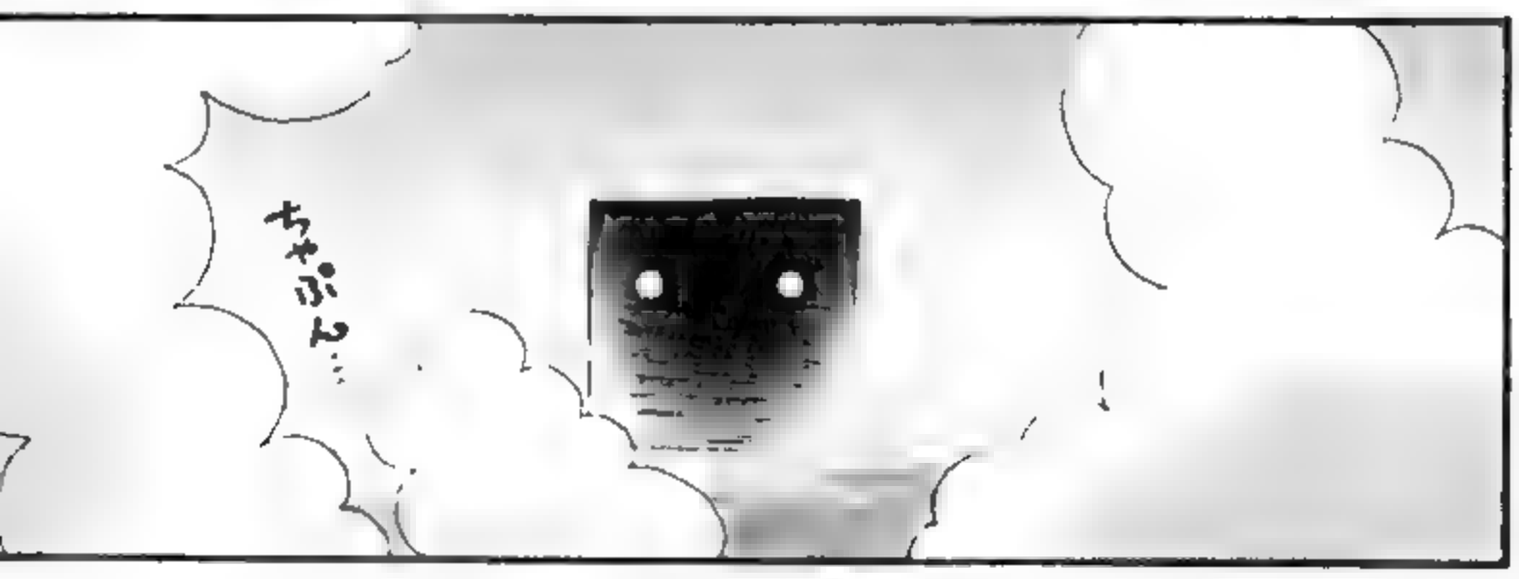
Tokyo★Innocent

Gensokyo Projects
東京☆イノセント
Tokyo★Innocent
GENSOKYO@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET
Translator: Hikarusama
Editor: Crescentvn
Proofreader: kreszentia
QC:
Raw Provider: sub0
Special Thanks: ACL, jou_jou





What dwells...in the bath - the Ichijouji Family's pride!!?

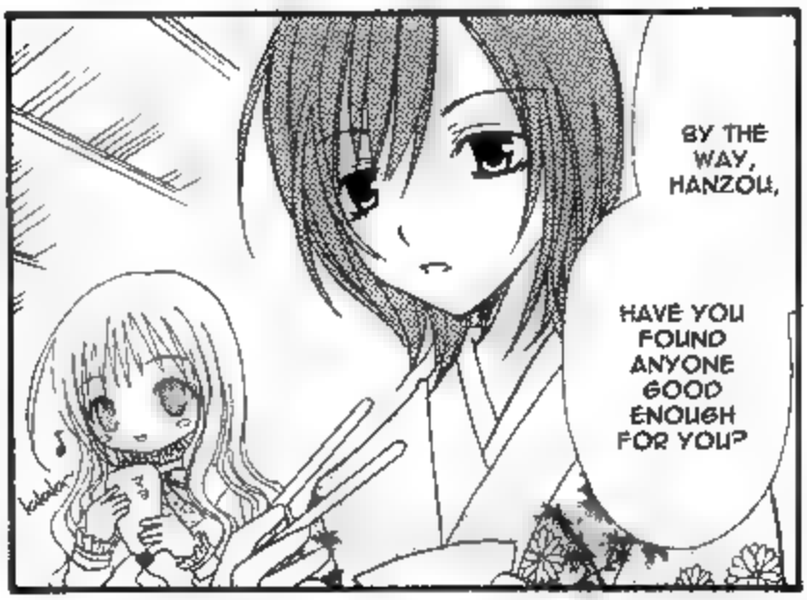
CHAPTER 2:
YOUKAI MANSION & MOONLIT NIGHT

I'm HOME~
WOW
BECAUSE IT'S HANZOU-KUN'S WELCOMING PARTY TOO.

*don: essentially a bowl of rice topped with stuff, in this case fried tofu.

**Fox Youkai are generally associated with "Inari" the Shinto Rice God. They are also said to like fried sliced tofu [aburaage]. Therefore, the aburaage don is the perfect combination for Hanzou.

THE SETTING HAS BECOME TOTALLY RELAXED.
I UNDERSTAND, ONEE-SAN.
A person who can't refuse
"Onee-san"!?
Onee-chan!! See what he's calling you...
ACTUALLY, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A LITTLE BROTHER
Sorry I turned out to be a girl!!


BY THE WAY, HANZOU,
HAVE YOU FOUND ANYONE GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU?

SINCE I'VE ALREADY FOUND THE RIGHT PERSON, I'LL RETURN TO THE ISLAND TOMORROW
You're kidding me!!

OH THAT'S RIGHT THE REASON HE CAME TO TOKYO WAS TO FIND A PARTNER IN MARRIAGE
Although he is young.
ABOUT THAT..

THOUGH IT HAS ONLY BEEN A SHORT TIME, YOU'VE BEEN A GREAT HELP TO ME.
I WILL RETURN THIS FAVOUR WITHOUT FAIL IN THE DAYS TO COME.

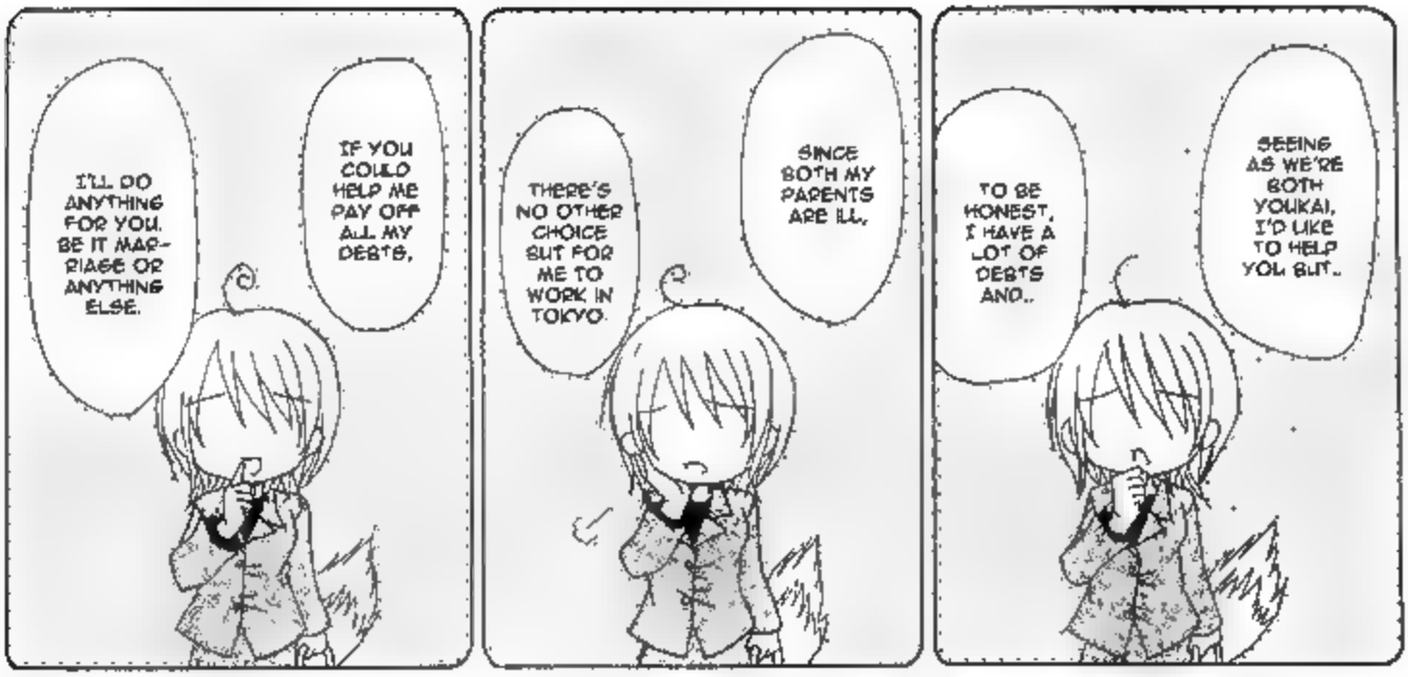
ISN'T THAT SPEECH A LITTLE PREEMP-TIVE?

HMM, WELL... HANZOU DOESN'T LOOK THAT BAD BUT TO AGREE TO MARRIAGE SO ABRUPTLY...?

...HANZOU
SHE IS A HARDWORKING AND KIND GIRL WHO IS CON-SIDERATE OF HER PARENTS.
WHAT... IS SHE LIKE, ANYWAYS?

Umm
THAT IS ..
COULD YOU GIVE ME A BIT MORE DETAILS ABOUT THAT WOMAN?

A WOMAN OF MY TRIBE CAME AND SPOKE TO ME, EXPLAINING THE CIRCUM-STANCES OF HER ARRIVAL.
ALSO, THE SUN WAS SETTING AND JUST WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO ACCEPT THAT THERE'D BE NO WAY I'D FIND SOMEONE TODAY..
THROUGHOUT THE DAY, I THINK I JUST ABOUT TALKED TO AS MANY GIRLS AS I COULD GET MY HANDS ON.
キリッ
As many as you could get your hands on.
Are you saying anyone would do for you!?
SERIOUS→

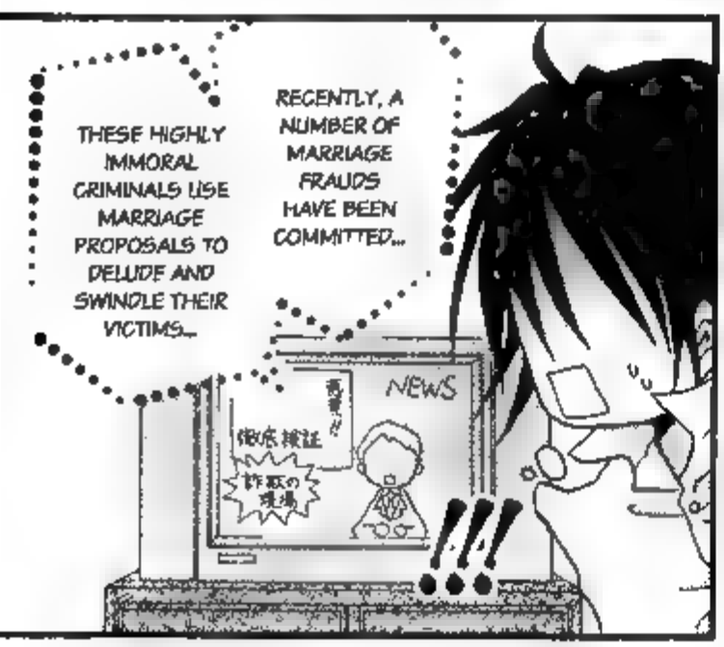

SEEING AS WE'RE BOTH YOUKAI, I'D LIKE TO HELP YOU BUT..
TO BE HONEST, I HAVE A LOT OF DEBTS AND..
SINCE BOTH MY PARENTS ARE ILL,
THERE'S NO OTHER CHOICE BUT FOR ME TO WORK IN TOKYO.
IF YOU COULD HELP ME PAY OFF ALL MY DEBTS,
I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU. BE IT MARRIAGE OR ANYTHING ELSE.

Wait a minute. That is to say...
AFTER NEGOTIATIONS, WE DECIDED THAT I SHOULD GIVE HER ALL THE MONEY I BROUGHT FROM THE ISLAND TO TIDE HER OVER
I'VE ALSO ASKED FOR HER CONTACT INFO SO THERE'S NO PROBLEM.

Working for the sake of her bedridden parents. It's touching.
BUT HE TOTALLY BELIEVES IN IT
I can't bring myself to tell him the truth...
THOUGH THERE'S THIS NAME CARD. EVERYTHING ON IT IS SUSPICIOUS
ONEE-CHAN, HE'S BEEN CHEATED HASN'T HE?

HANZOU-KUN, YOU'VE BEEN CHEATED.
IT'S A FRAUD
A FRAUD.
I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT YOU'VE BEEN TOTALLY CHEATED!!
To be so blunt.
!

IT'S IM-POSSIBLE...
WHAT YOU'RE SUGGEST-ING..


THESE HIGHLY IMMORAL CRIMINALS USE MARRIAGE PROPOSALS TO DELUDE AND SWINDLE THEIR VICTIMS...
RECENTLY, A NUMBER OF MARRIAGE FRAUDS HAVE BEEN COMMITTED...
NEWS
!!!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN DE-CEIVED.
This address is nonsense too.
!
THE NUMBER YOU HAVE DIALED IS CURRENTLY NOT IN USE.

I WAS CHEATED ...?
HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE HE FOUND OUT..
will he be all right?
That's
'CAUSE HE'S BEEN CHEATED OF ALL HIS MONEY
Anyone would be the same
tokyo girls are scary
From now on, I won't trust anyone.

HANZOU, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO DE-PRESSED

WHAT AN IDIOT
THE ENTIRE THING WAS SO OBVIOUS. IF ONLY YOU'D THOUGH ABOUT IT A LITTLE.
SO REALLY, YOU ONLY GOT WHAT YOU DE-SERVED!!

NEE-SAN..
I WILL LEND YOU THE MONEY YOU NEED

I HEARD FROM ANGELA,
YOU SAVED ME! FROM A YOUKA. EARLIER, RIGHT?
ISN'T THAT REASON ENOUGH?
I CAN'T TAKE IT.
YOU HAVE NO REASON TO DO SO MUCH FOR ME...

IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU
FRANKLY, I DON'T KNOW YOU VERY WELL,
BUT I THINK IT'D BE GOOD FOR ME TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER FROM NOW ON AND..

MEI-CHAN, YOU'VE BEEN TALKING ABOUT NOTHING BUT HANZOU-KUN FOR SOME TIME,
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT HIM?
It's not like that!
AREN'T PEOPLE USUALLY MORE CAREFUL WHEN IT COMES TO CHOOSING MARRIAGE PARTNERS?

A YOUKAI-ATTACHING CONSTITUTION ISN'T LIKE A COLD ? IT ISN'T SOMETHING THAT CAN BE CURED
About that
MAYBE MY YOUKAI-ATTACHING CONSTITUTION HAS BEEN CURED .
ANYWAY, FORGET ABOUT THAT LISTEN TO THIS!
MY BODY HASN'T FELT INEXPLICABLY HEAVY OR TAKEN ON COLD FITS AT ALL FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS.

chek
Is that so?
IT'S AN ISSUE OF "BLOOD".

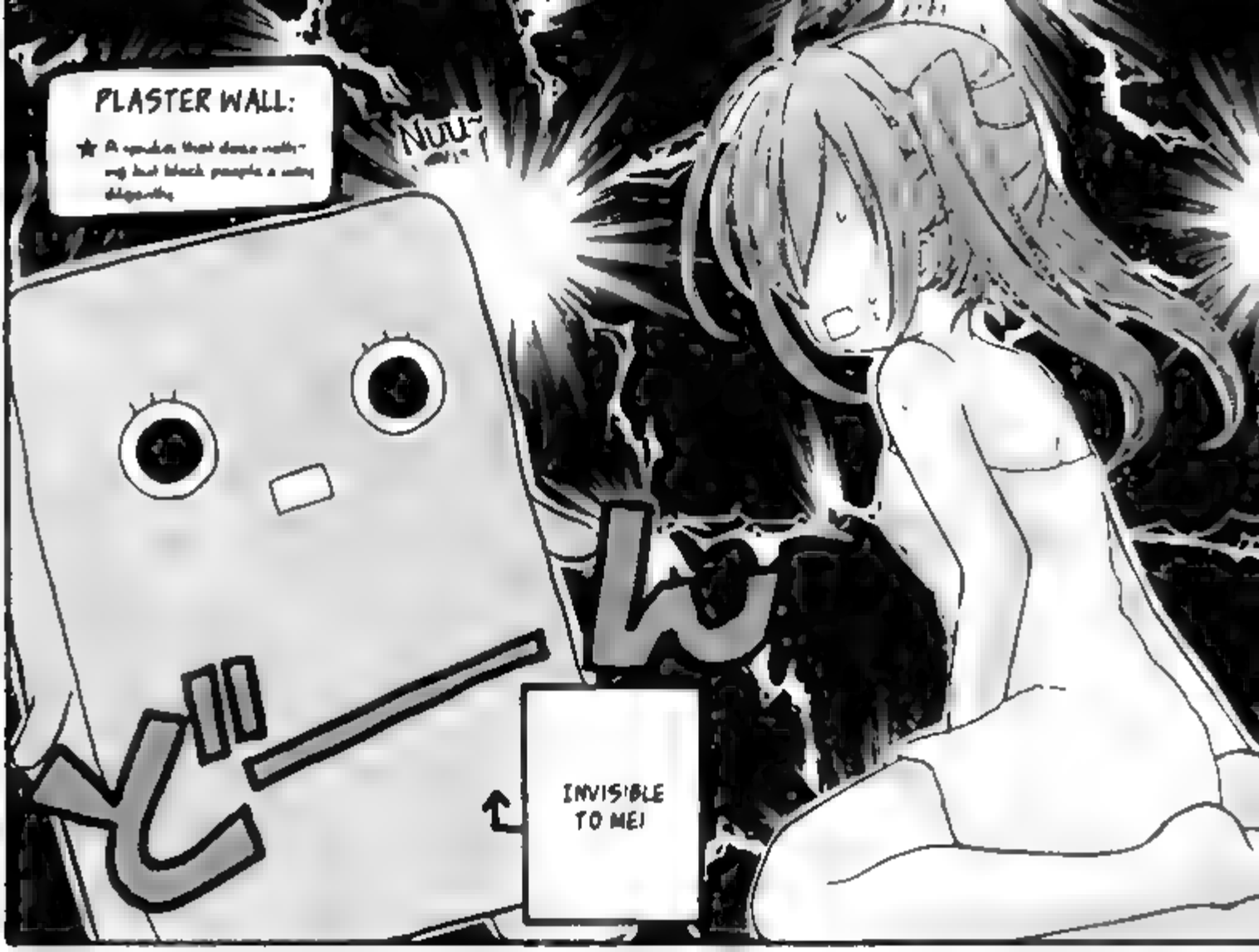
THAT'S THE REASON I AM HERE
If I'm attacked by scary things like before
That sucks
IF THAT HAPPENS, AS AN EXORCIST, I WILL PROTECT MEI-CHAN
BUT SHE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THE MOST RELIABLE PERSON RIGHT NOW
ANGELA.

Waaa~
I FEEL ALIVE AGAIN.

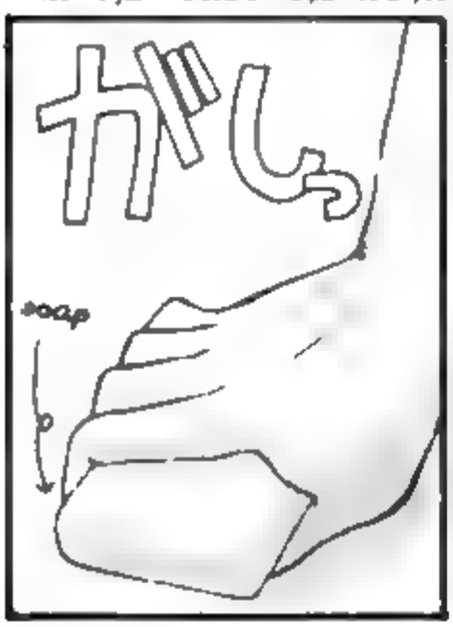
I'LL JUST SAVE UP AND MOVE OUT QUICKLY.
IF THAT'S THE CASE,
okay!
Go, Mei!

AS IT IS, HANZOU WILL PROBABLY BE STAYING AT OUR HOUSE FOR A WHILE
.....
I doubt Onee-chan will abandon him in his time of need

Waa!
So I'll have to work more in the morning and on weekends
Hmm
ぱや
AHH... ONCE VACATION ENDS AND SCHOOL STARTS, I'LL HAVE LESS TIME FOR WORK...
It hurts
What the-!? What did I hit just now!?
I CAN'T MOVE FOR-WARD!?
Aaack



*Nuu - is just the sound that particular youkai makes (since it doesn't speak human)



THAT'S RIGHT... IF I YELL WILL COME HELP ME...
I CAN'T" THE WAY I'M DRESSED, IF COMES IT'LL BE WOOSE'''

Nu~~
!?
?

I MUST WIN INJECTION PENCIL!!!

ANYWAY, IF I START LIVING BY MYSELF, I'LL HAVE TO DEPEND ON MYSELF FOR WHATEVER HAPPENS_!

I'M A BIG FAILURE.
AT THIS RATE, WILL I REALLY BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT THE ISLAND'S WILL?
I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE FUTURE...
キリ
キリ
Hahh...

Could it be?
A THIEF!?
WHAT'S THAT?

Argh, enough!

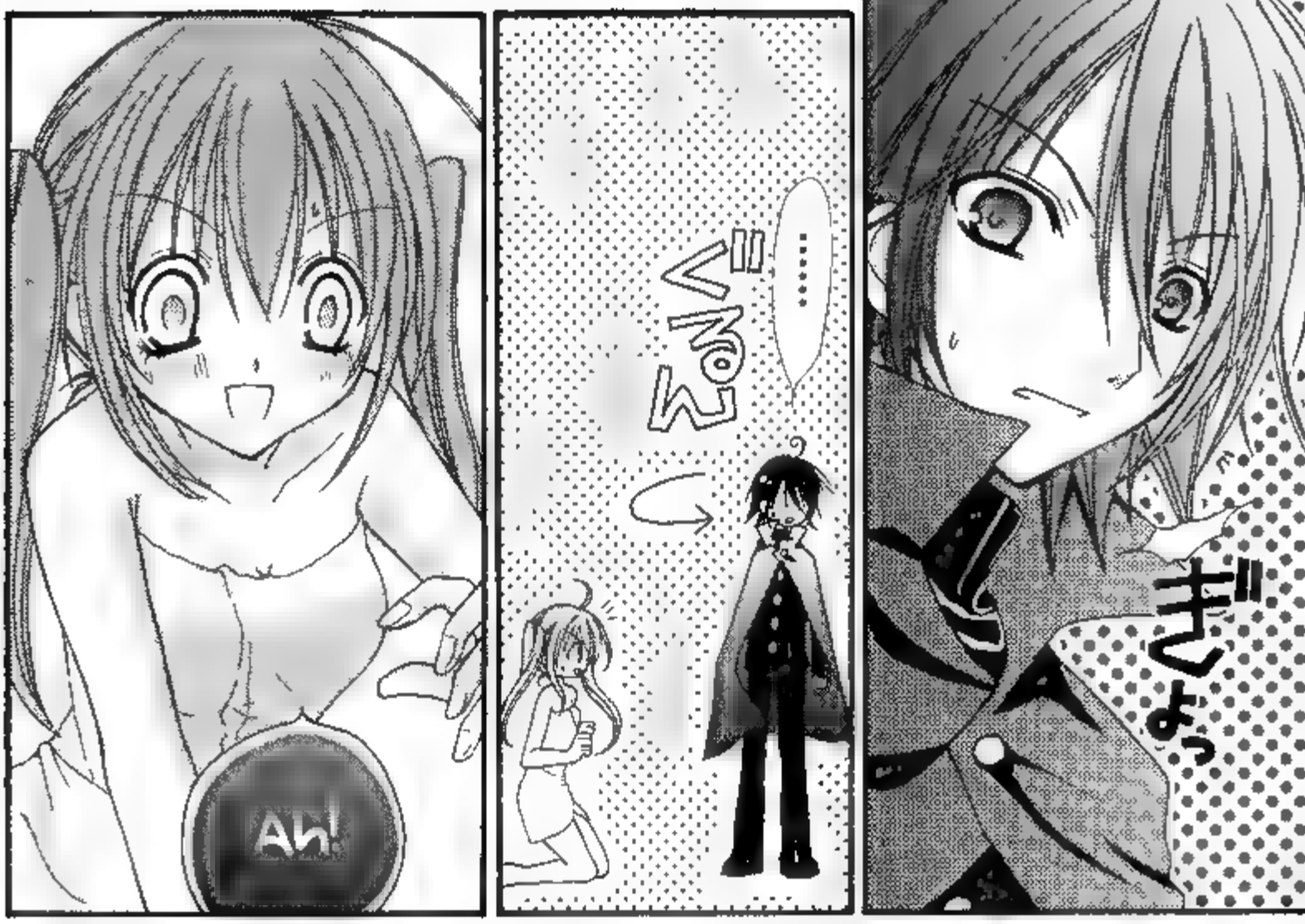
Even though I said that.
WHAT DO I DO IF IT'S A REALLY BIG AND SCARY DEMON?
Nu~
So hurry up and show yourself!!
I won't know where to aim unless I can see you.
Even though I can't see you
Haah
Haah
Zz"
Zz"
!
what?
Eh...

Iyaaaa
Oof
!!!?

I'm going to
be crushed by
some unknown
demon and die

Hanzou.
HUH, SO IT IS YOU AFTER ALL.

Hanzou!? Why are you here!?
That is.
IF THERE WAS SUCH A HUGE RACKET BELOW THEM, ANYONE WOULD'VE NOTICED
What is it?
What is it?
What- ever you say, just get this thing off of me~!!
whew, saved.


Ah!
……
くるっ
きゃっ

IT'S NO GOOD
THE AIR IN HERE IS TOO HUMID. MY FLAMES WON'T MATERIALIZE
しゅ～～～
Is it such an unstable thing!!?
What do you want me to do!?
Get out!
But chase that thing away!!
Ah
Hyaaaaaaa

Hey, don't pull that hard or—
Waa
What happened, Mei-chan!!?
キュウッ
OH DEAR

UMM-
DO YOU WANT ME TO EXORCISE PLASTER WALL-SAN,
OR HANZOU-KUN?
It's a misunder standing
PUT AN END TO THEM BOTH.
!!?

PLEASE LEAVE IT TO ME!
I WON'T FORGIVE ANYONE,
THAT BULLIES MEI-CHAN !!!
A MAGIC WAND (!?)
IS SHE GOING TO TRANS-FORM?
Like magical girl
She's so cool
ばーーん

Hiya!
A physical attack!?

ぶる
But now I'm completely frozen
Though I don't really understand what happened, I'm amazed
SHE'S GIVING IT A LECTURE
Do you understand? You must not do things that disturb other people.
ぶる

IT'S BECAUSE YOU ARE DRESSED LIKE THAT.

Wah

Hey!
There's nothing I can do, right?! This is the bathroom after all!!

Any-ways
Thank-

Tch.
ぎゅっ

すたすたすた

Honestly, would anyone do for you!?
WILL YOU MARRY ME?
(♀)Girl

HANZOU.
AS EXPECTED, HE'S STILL FEELING DOWN

OH MAN I HAD A TERRIBLE TIME
HUH?

HONESTLY.
THERE'S NO POINT IN SIGHING!

ALTHOUGH I HAVE ALWAYS LIVED HERE, THIS IS MY FIRST TIME

Silence...
IF IT HAS A PLACE LIKE THIS, THE "YOUKAI MANSION" DOESN'T SEEM THAT BAD, EH?

ISN'T MARRIAGE A BIT TOO EARLY FOR YOUR AGE?
I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT YOUKAI'S AFFAIRS BUT
How should I say this?
WIPE THAT MISERABLE LOOK OFF YOUR FACE!
THE MILK WILL TURN SOUR!!
Gah!

THIS IS MY MISSION.
IT IS AN ORDER

I HAVE A DEBT TO PAY
IT IS SOMETHING THAT I CAN'T RETALIATE AGAINST.

IF YOU GOT MARRIED JUST TO REPAY A DEBT, I DON'T THINK YOU'LL BE HAPPY!

YOU'RE
Well sorry for being a busy body!
No sympathy! SYMPA-THY!

I'LL SEARCH A LITTLE LONGER,

SINCE I'VE DECIDED ON THAT, MY GOAL TOMORROW IS TO TALK TO MORE THAN A HUNDRED PEOPLE...
No! I'm telling you to stop being so indiscriminate!!
Haven't you learned your lesson yet!?
You don't understand at all!

WOW, IT'S NOISY UP THERE.
Gya- Gya
This is a wonderful bath, isn't it?

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Tokyo★Innocent
Translator: Hikarusama, jou_jou
Editor: Crescentvn
Proofreader: helikaon
QC: helikaon, tt2ung
Raw Provider: sub0
GENSOKYO@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

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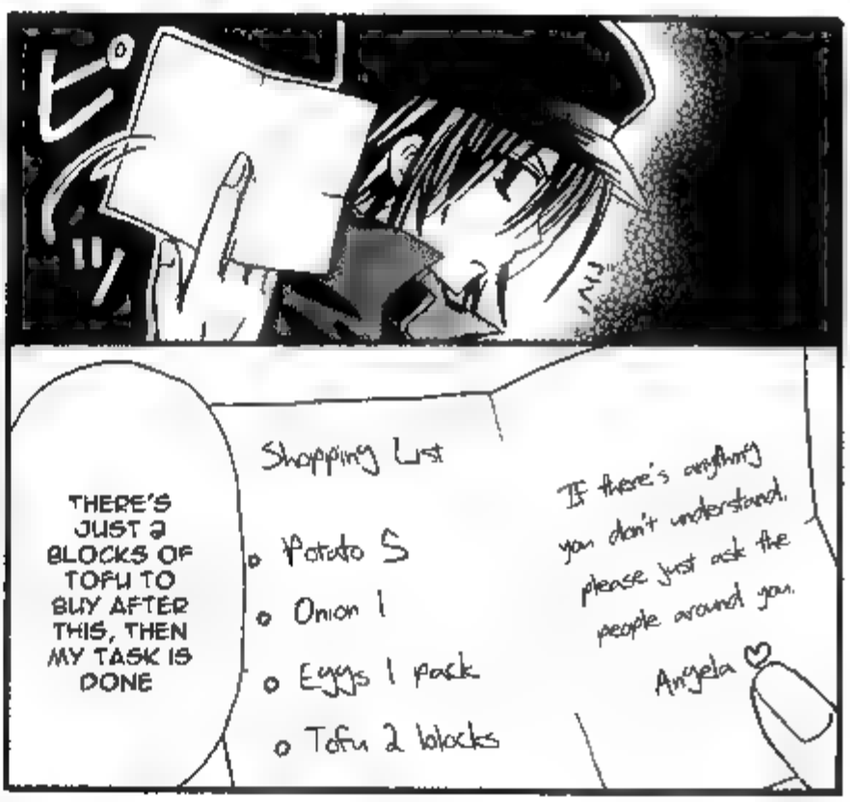
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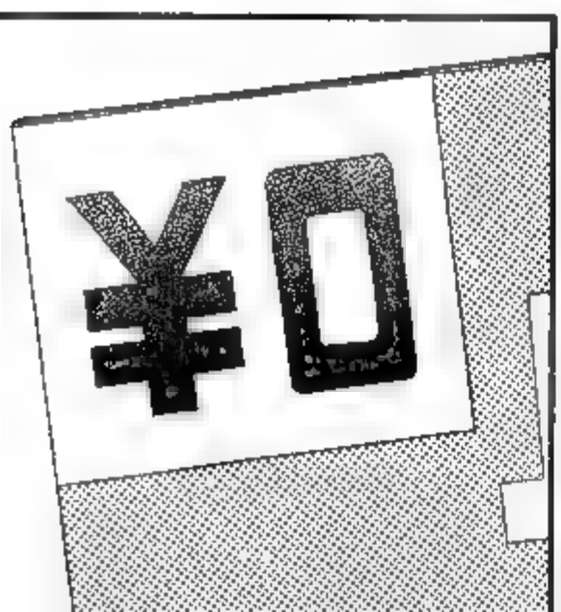
THERE'S JUST 2 BLOCKS OF TOFU TO BUY AFTER THIS, THEN MY TASK IS DONE
Shopping List
Potato 5
Onion 1
Eggs 1 pack
Tofu 2 blocks
If there's anything you don't understand, please just ask the people around you.
Angela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Please feel free to take one
¥0
Job
Free Magazine

CHAPTER 03:
JOB-HUNTING AND YOUKAI TEMPLE

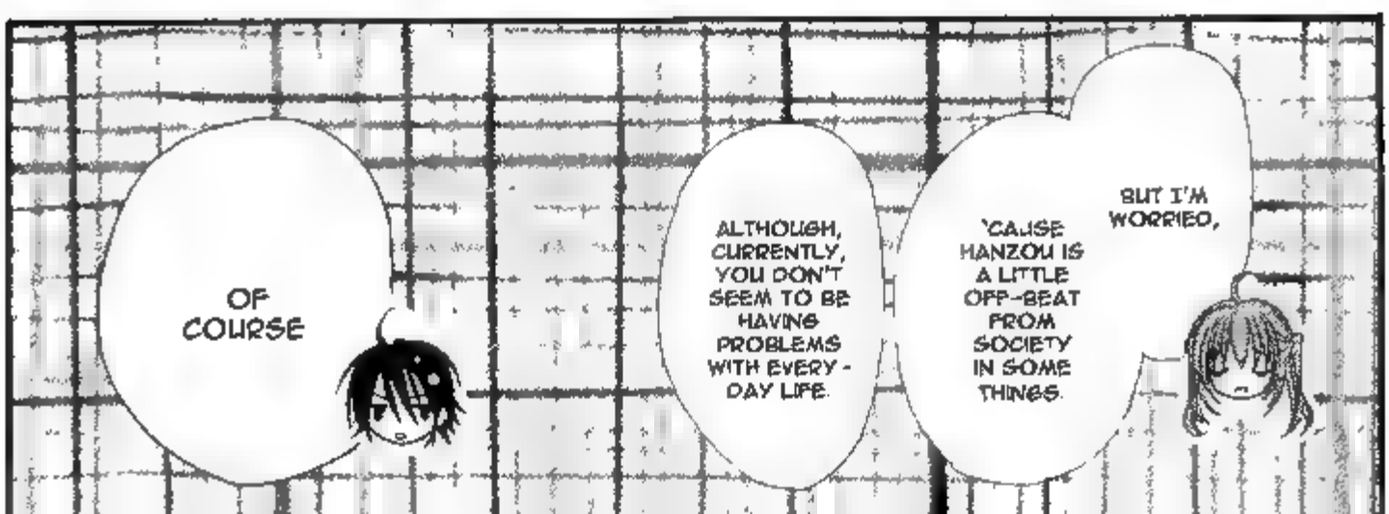
THE FOLLOWING MORNING
SILENT
¥0
仕事探し
FROM

I'VE BEEN WORKING - WORKING.
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN WANDERING OFF TO, SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?
OH, IT'S YOU.

AND,
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
AS YOU CAN SEE, I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A JOB.

HMM...
But I don't really know how to go about it

LOOKING FOR A JOB?
BECAUSE IF I CONTINUE TO BE PENNILESS INDEFINITELY, I'LL BECOME AN ANNOYANCE TO NEE-SAN.
FREE


OF COURSE
ALTHOUGH, CURRENTLY, YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH EVERY-DAY LIFE.
'CAUSE HANZOU IS A LITTLE OFF-BEAT FROM SOCIETY IN SOME THINGS.
BUT I'M WORRIED,

THE FOX YOUKAI'S ISLAND WHERE HUMANS LIVED
THAT IS AS IF...
BUT WHERE "WORK" IS CONCERNED, IT'S DIFFERENT
SINCE IT HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN AN ISLAND WHERE HUMANS, TOO, HAVE LIVED
THE LIFESTYLE ON THE ISLAND IS, OR ALMOST, THE SAME AS THAT OF HUMANS,
WORK
MISSION
MANUAL LABOUR
STRESS
PRESSURE
EH?!
WHEN IT COMES TO JOBS, THEY'RE USUALLY ACCOMPANIED BY DUTIES.
It's...

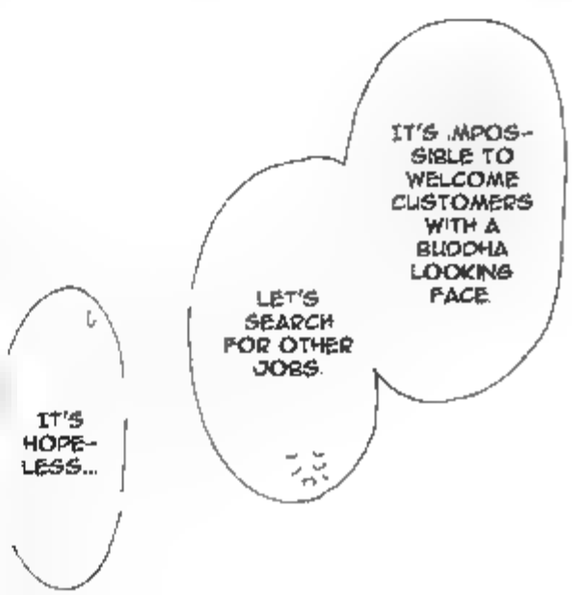
IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT YOU HAVE TO THINK SO HARD ABOUT.
You looks way too serious
BUT, IT'S OKAY!

Welcome☆
For example
IF YOU'RE IN THE SERVICE INDUSTRY. YOUR SMILE IS YOUR LIFE!!
SMILES ARE THE MOST BASIC FOUNDATION TO ANY CUSTOMER RELATED BUSINESSES.
BEFORE YOU GET USED TO THE JOB, WHATEVER HAPPENS, JUST SMILE!
Easy, right?
スッ
MY SMILE IS MY LIFE.

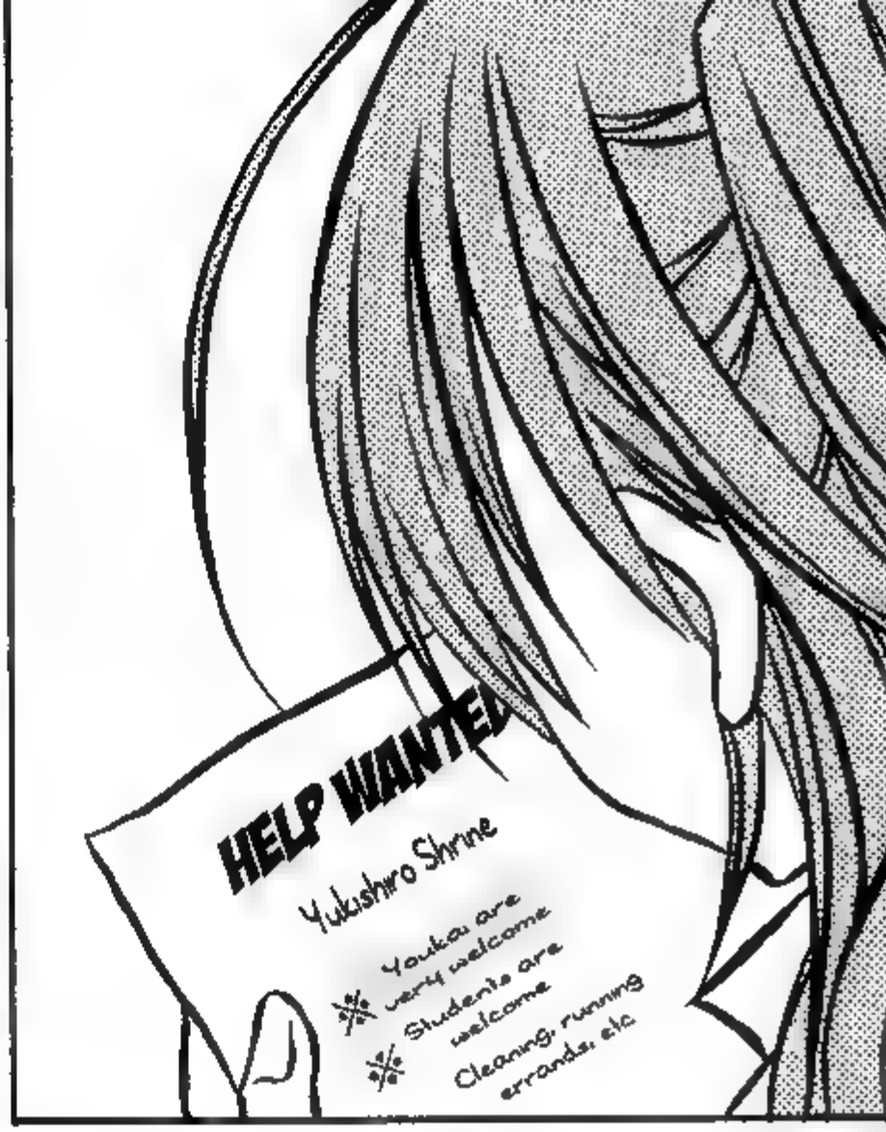
Now together
!!
THAT'S RIGHT, JUST SMILE.
ニコ

How's that?
What !!?
Was that a smile!?

SUITABLE JOBS ARE PRETTY HARD TO COME BY, HUH?
HMM.
SIGH...


IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO WELCOME CUSTOMERS WITH A BUDDHA LOOKING FACE
LET'S SEARCH FOR OTHER JOBS.
IT'S HOPELESS...

..BUT SOME-HOW,
THERE'S AN ADVERTISE-MENT THAT'S JUST RIGHT FOR YOU.
And it's close, too
Heh~
ピラ..


HELP WANTED
Yukishiro Shrine
※ Youkai are very welcome
※ Students are welcome
※ Cleaning, running errands, etc.

IT'S NOT GOOD TO BE SUSPICIOUS WITHOUT CAUSE.
Well, you shouldn't believe everything so easily!
OH, MY

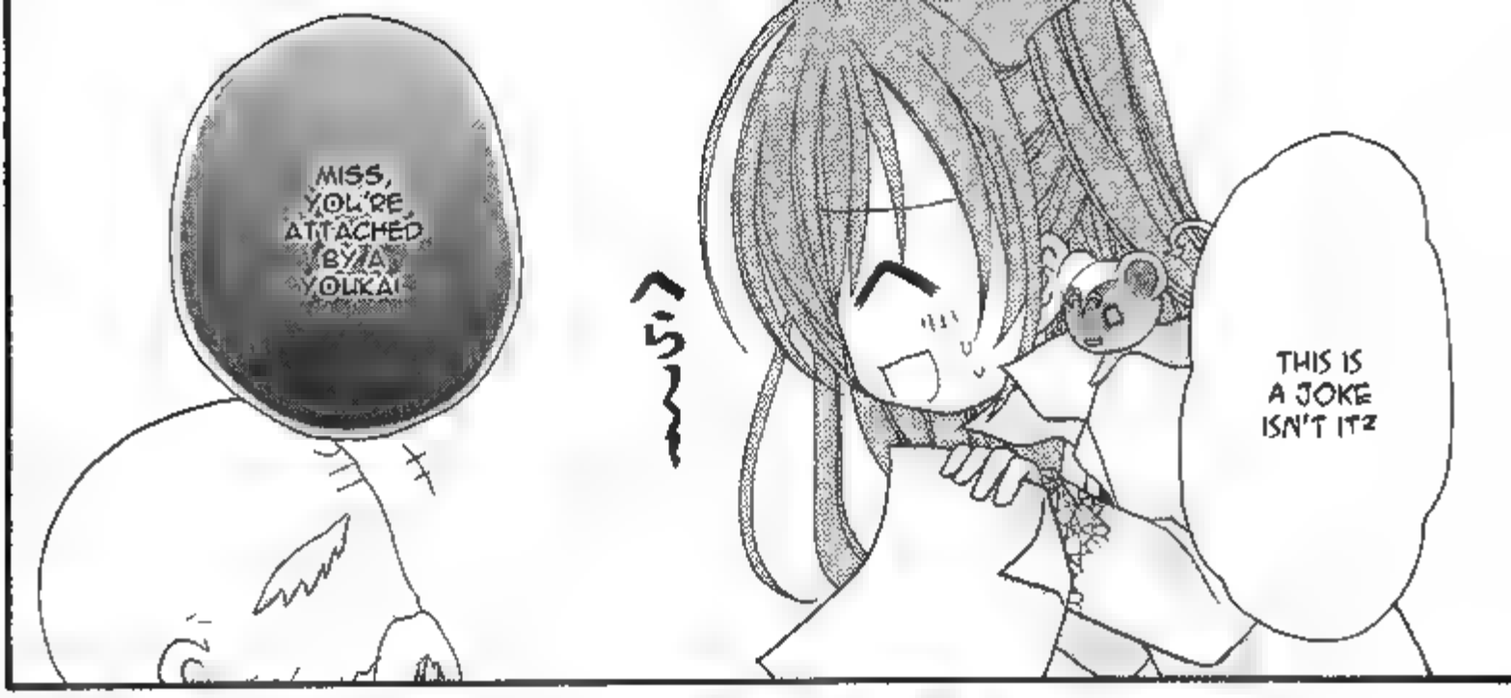
YES, THIS LOOKS GOOD.
I don't believe it. It's absolutely impossible.
It must be a joke of some sort!!

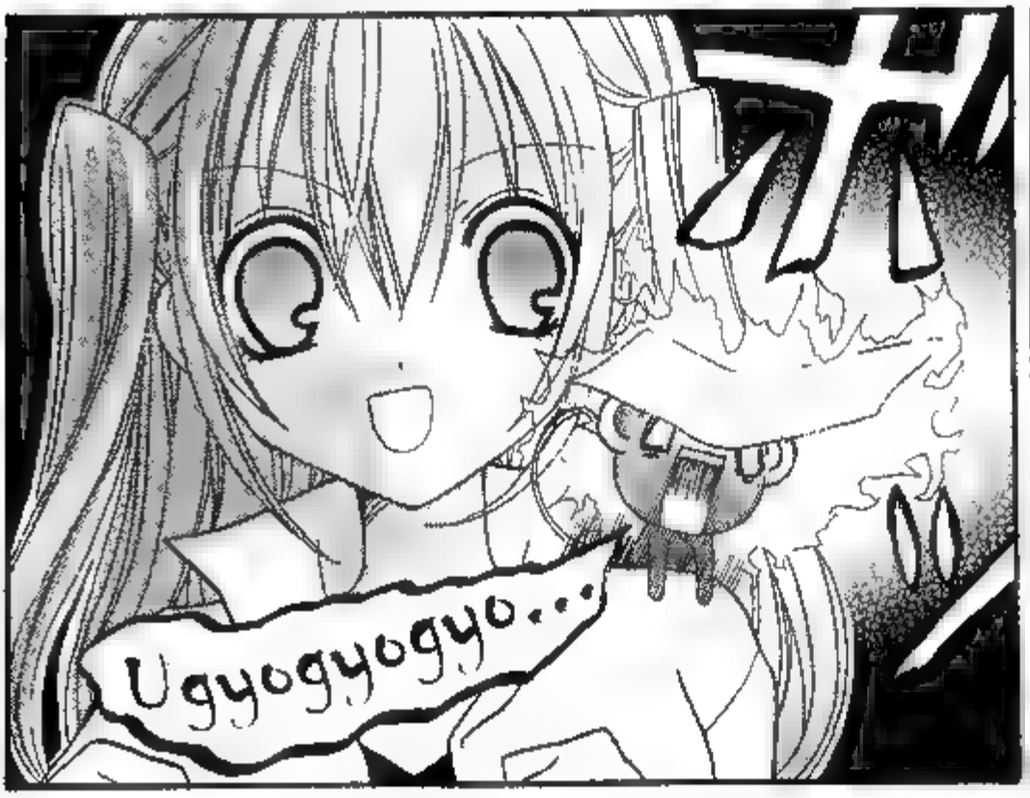
IT IS GOOD, ISN'T IT?
DESPITE EVERYTHING, MEI-CHAN AND HANZOU-KUN SEEM TO BE GETTING ALONG.
BECAUSE MEI IS THAT KIND OF GIRL
PET
WHEN WE HAD PETS BEFORE,
MEI ALWAYS TURNED OUT TO BE THE MOST MEDDLE-SOME ONE.
BEFORE THAT, DO YOU WANT SOME TEA, SUZUKO-SAN?
THAT'LL BE NICE
TODAY, ANGELA, YOU CAN HELP ME COLLECT THE MATERIALS FOR THE NEW NOVEL.
SINCE HANZOU IS WITH ME., IT SHOULD BE ALRIGHT

IS IT HERE?
Tagged along because she had free time.
LOOKING AT THIS TYPE OF BUILDING REMINDS ME OF THE ISLAND.
HURRY UP!
キラ～ン

*kannushi: a Shinto priest and often owner of a temple

I WANT TO ASK ABOUT THIS JOB ADVERTISE-MENT, BUT...
EXCUSE ME,
ARE YOU PERHAPS THE KANNUSHI-SAN* HERE?
YES, YOU CAN SAY THAT
HOW CAN I HELP YOU?


MISS, YOU'RE ATTACHED BY A YOUKAI
THIS IS A JOKE ISN'T IT?


Ugyogyogyo...

Eh?
Hoi

What was that thing, just now?
Ahhhhh~
IT IS A MONKEY ISN'T IT?
IT IS A MONKEY

Oh-chan, who are you?
ME?
Hey! Don't start talking as if nothing's happened!!
YOU, I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND THIS AREA.
BECAUSE IT'S ONLY RECENTLY THAT I'VE COME TO TOKYO

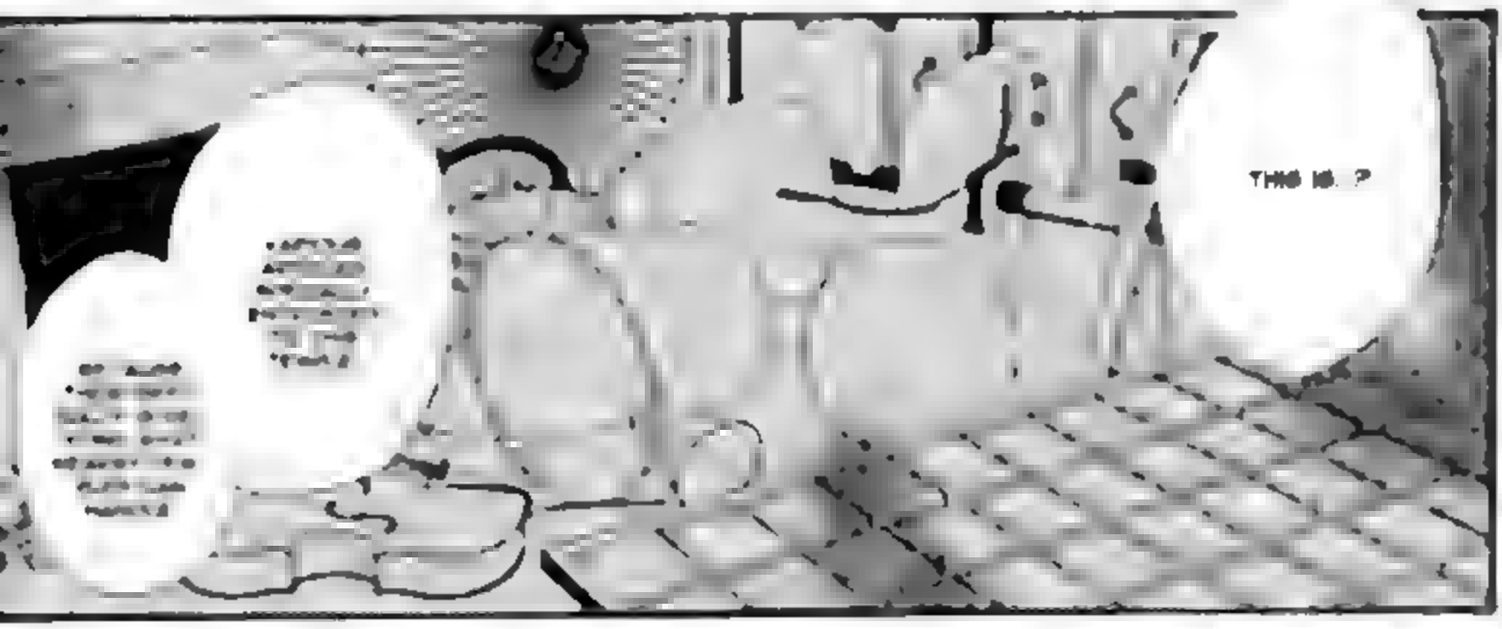
I AM...
WHA-
WHA-
AN ANCIENT FOX - 500 YEARS OF AGE.
I HAVE ALREADY LIVED AMONG THE HUMANS IN TOKYO FOR A LONG TIME

HOW CUTE~
!?
HEY, IF YOU KEEP SPINNING LIKE THAT..
WHITE AND FURRY.
Like a stuffed animal

Huh?
NOW COME TO THINK OF IT, WHERE HAS OJII-CHAN DISAP-PEARED TO?
COULD YOU TREAT ME MORE GENTLY?
You mustn't throw seniors around!!
wow, great landing

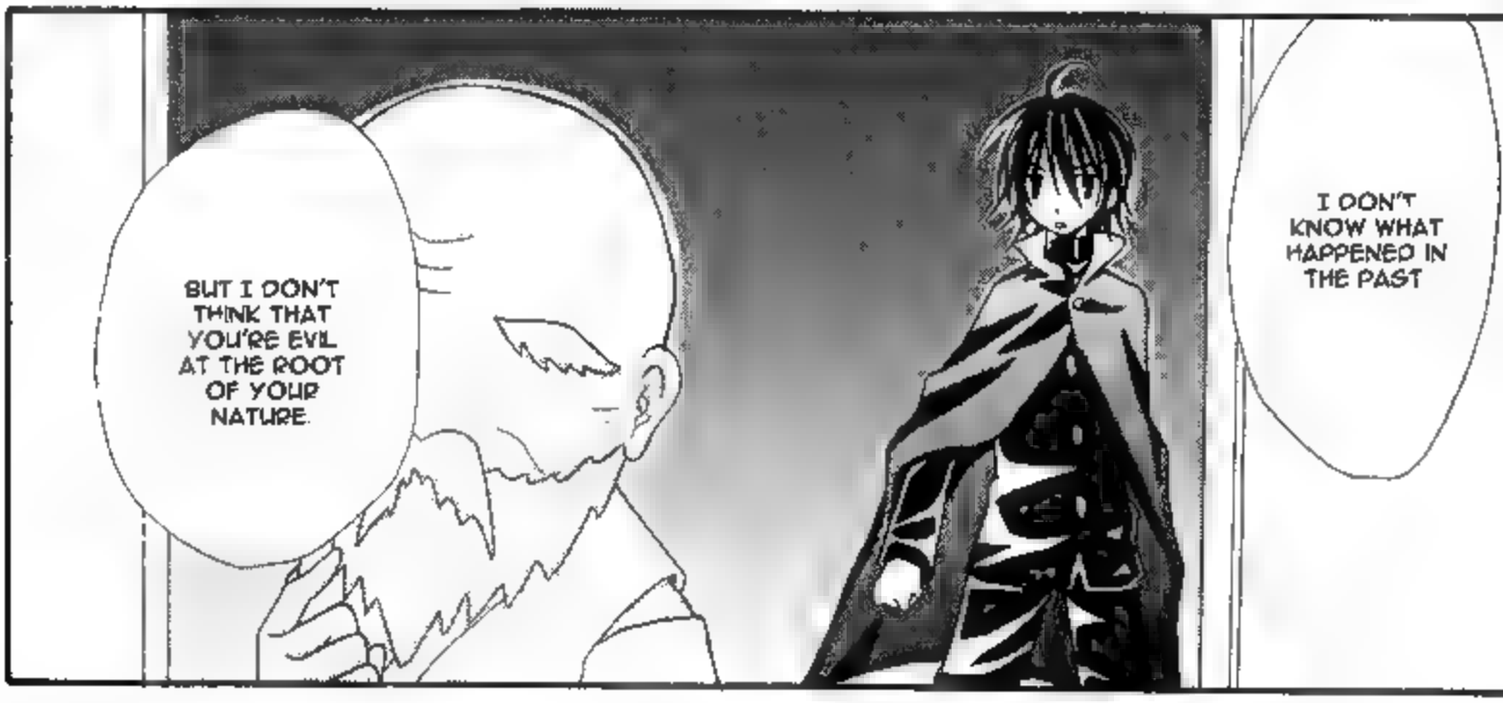
RIGHT NOW, I LIVE AT THIS SHRINE WITH MY GRAND-DAUGHTER.
UNFORTU-NATELY, SHE'S AWAY DUE TO AN URGENT REQUEST.
I AM ALSO FROM THE ISLAND.
We are not in that type of relation-ship at all.
It's not what you think!!
Ah.
IT'S NOT..
BUT ANYWAY, IT'S A GOOD THING THAT YOU'VE FOUND YOUR MATCH.
although she is a bit aggressive
SEARCH-ING FOR A WIFE IS A DIFFICULT THING..
hah-
It's the last day of the holidays and I'm still with youkai.

WHAT'S WRONG? YOUR FACE IS A BIT RED.
I DON'T KNOW! I'M GONNA GO LOOK AT THE STANDS.
WHY DID SHE GET ANGRY ALL OF A SUDDEN?
I don't get it.
WELL, YOU'VE COME FOR WORK, HAVEN'T YOU?
LET'S GET STARTED THEN



*Translator's note: jaki = dark/evil energy

THEN, THEY BECOME LOW LEVEL MONSTERS THAT
TRY TO TAKE CONTROL OF THEIR MASTER'S BODY
YOU CAN DO THIS KIND OF WORK, RIGHT?
SO..
EVEN BEING THE HALF MONSTER, THAT YOU ARE.
NAMELY, YOUR JOB IS..
TO REMOVE THE JAKI FROM THESE THINGS BY USING YOUR PURIFYING FLAME.


BUT I DON'T THINK THAT YOU'RE EVIL AT THE ROOT OF YOUR NATURE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST

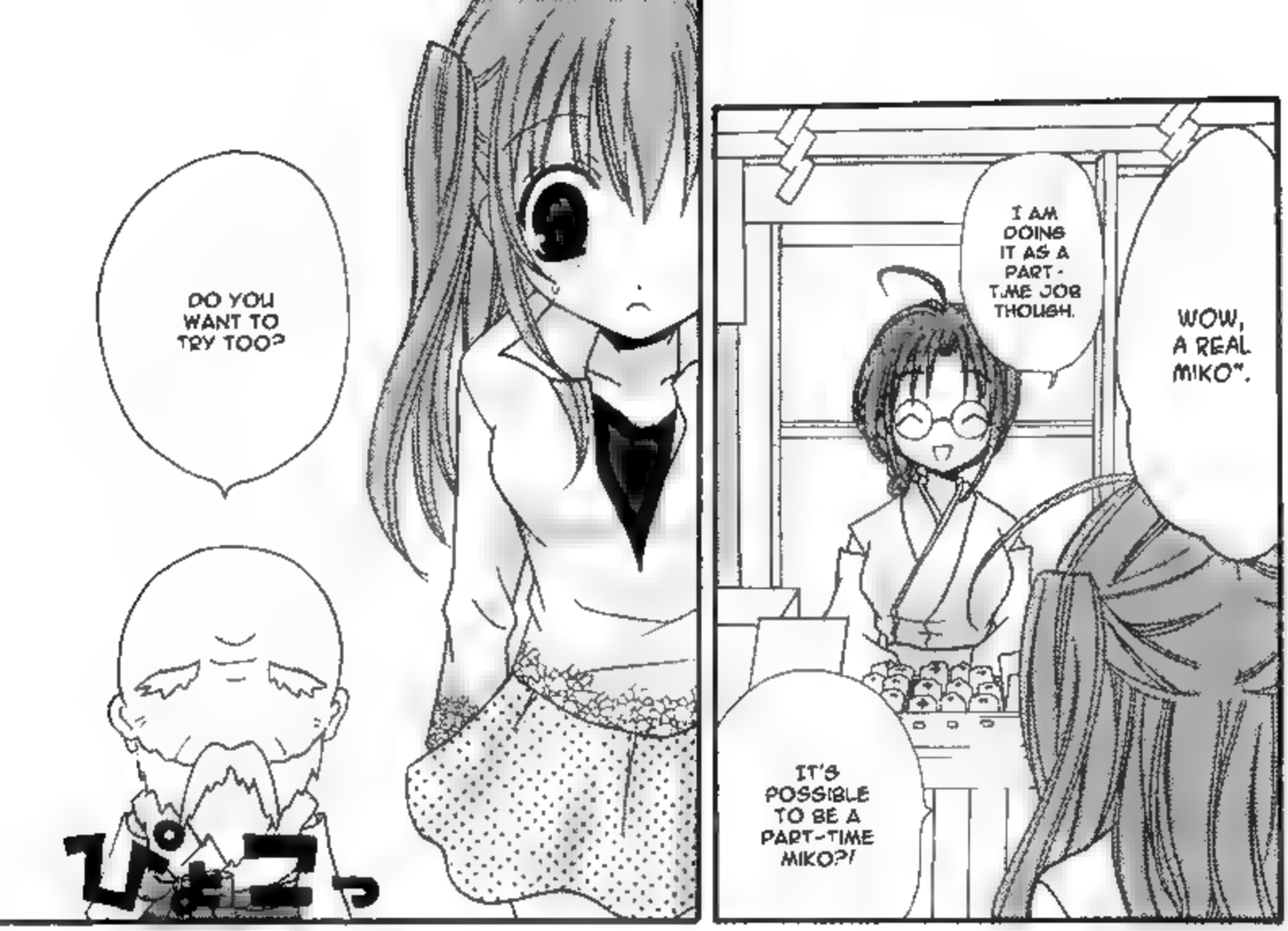
Well anyhow
IF YOU WORK HARD, BOTH YOUR HEART AND BODY WILL BE REFRESHED.

But
IN THESE 16 YEARS, I'VE NEVER HAD A PERSON LIKE THAT IS THAT UNUSUAL?

SO HANZOU AND I LOOK THIS WAY..
Hahn
SOME-HOW, IT'S COMPLI-CATED.

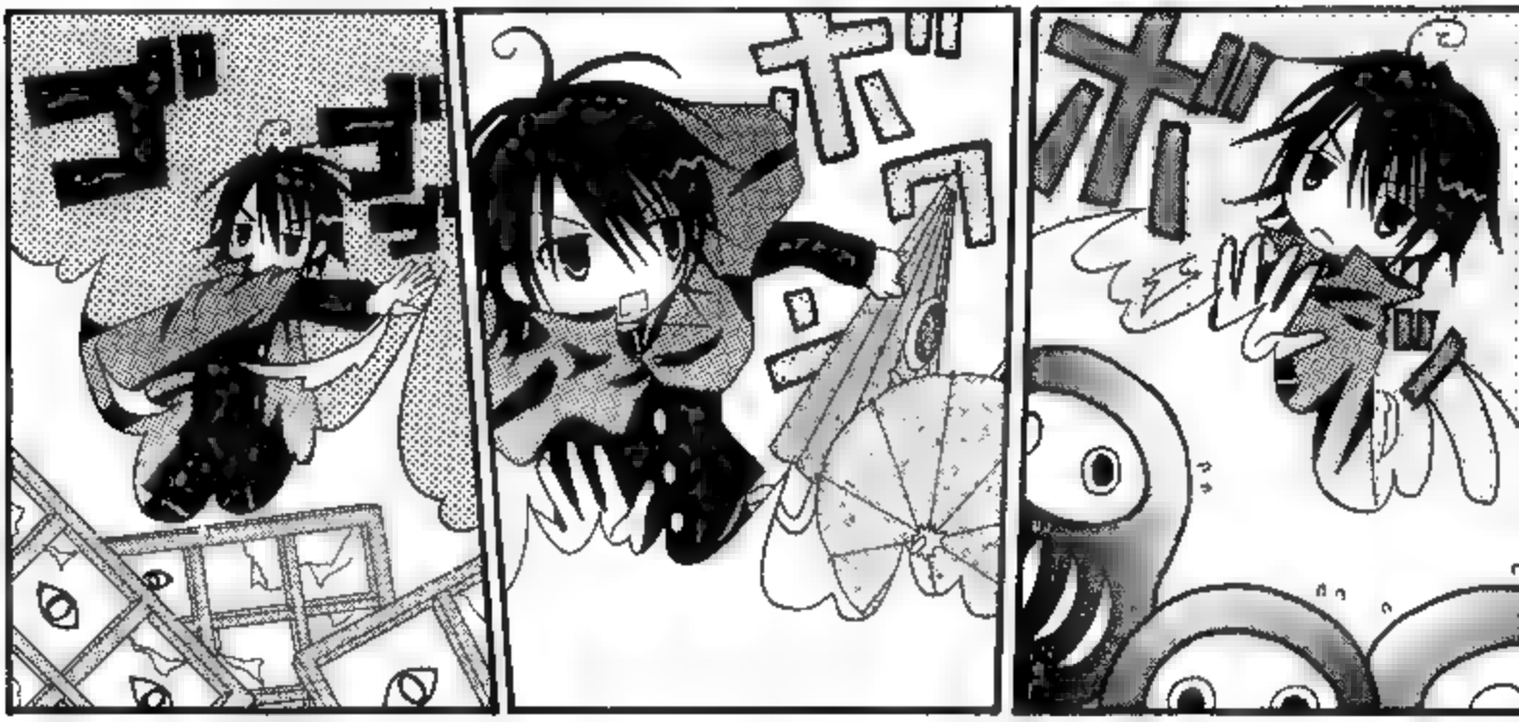
THIS CHILD COULD SHE BE THE KANNUSHI'S GRAND-DAUGHTER?
HELLO,

HUH? SHE WALKED AWAY -
CAN I INTEREST YOU IN A TALISMAN?
OH,



*Translator's note: miko = shrine maiden

COULD IT BE THAT THIS ABILITY'S ORIGINAL FUNCTION WAS MEANT FOR THIS?


ゴゴゴ
ボワ
ボ

!
メラメラ
ズラ～～
WHAT KIND OF FINISH-ING MOVE IS THAT?
How do you do it?!
ニャー
It's fire.
ワンワン
Oh Oh
ONII-SAN, YOU'RE AWESOME!!

IT'S MIYAJO SHOW!
KANZOU
Wahhh
WHAT'S THAT?
KANNUSHI O-NI-CHAN LENT IT TO ME.
I'M HELPING AT THE STANDS FOR THE DAY

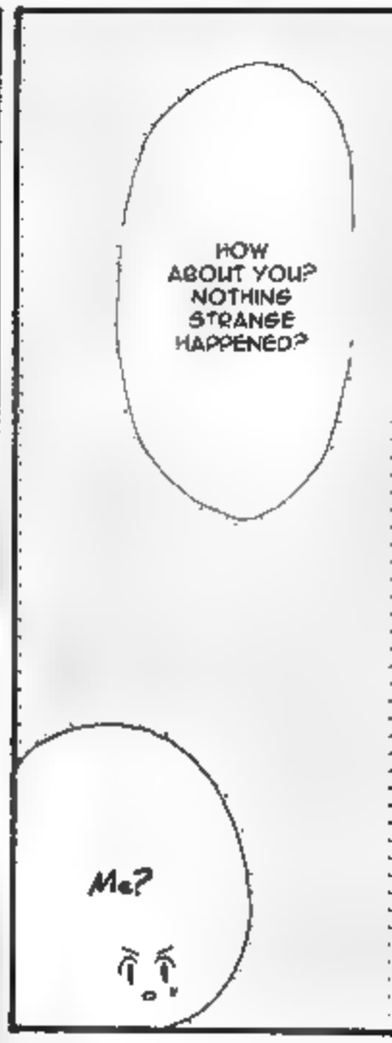
SO IS YOUR JOB GOING WELL?
YEAH, NO PROB-LEM.
★ On break.

ABOUT WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

This outfit!
Does it look good? Does it look bad? Does it suit me or does it not suit me?
You have an opinion, don't you?!

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I MET KANNUSHI-SAN'S GRAND-DAUGHTER
SHE'S STILL A CUTE LITTLE GIRL.

OH! HE MEANS THINGS RELATED TO BEING "ATTACHED", DOESN'T HE?
UM..


HOW ABOUT YOU? NOTHING STRANGE HAPPENED?
Me?

..IN THAT

ANYWAYS, BREAK IS ALMOST OVER, SO I'LL BE GOING.

.....
Hey

BECAUSE I UNDERSTAND THAT NOT ALL YOUKAI ARE SCARY.

You're too slow!!
..SORRY.
???
IT'S NOT BAD.
I THINK...

I'M GETTING OLD SO,
FROM NOW ON, IF I CAN DEPEND ON YOU FOR ODD JOBS AND SUCH, IT WILL BE OF GREAT HELP
CERTAINLY, IF YOU THINK I'LL DO.
THEN, YOU ARE FORMALLY HIRED
I APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS,
YOU HAVE BEEN OF GREAT HELP TO ME DUE TO YOUR HARD WORK.

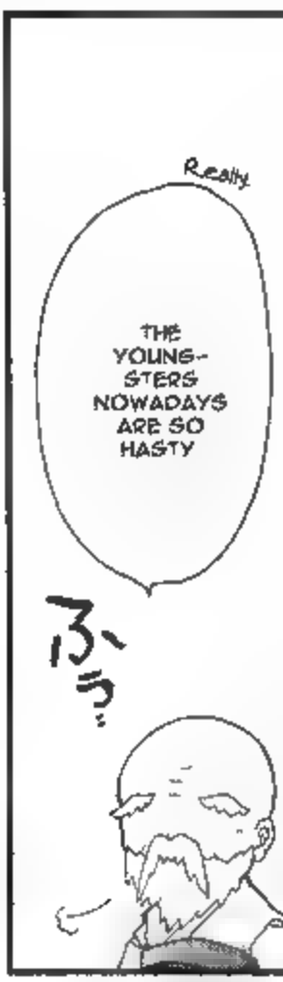
BY THE WAY ..
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY GRANDDAUGHTER?
WHAT?
SHE CAN COME AS SOON AS SHE MAKES THE PROPER ARRANGEMENTS AT HOME
OH IF IT'S THAT LITTLE LADY ..
HOW ABOUT HER?

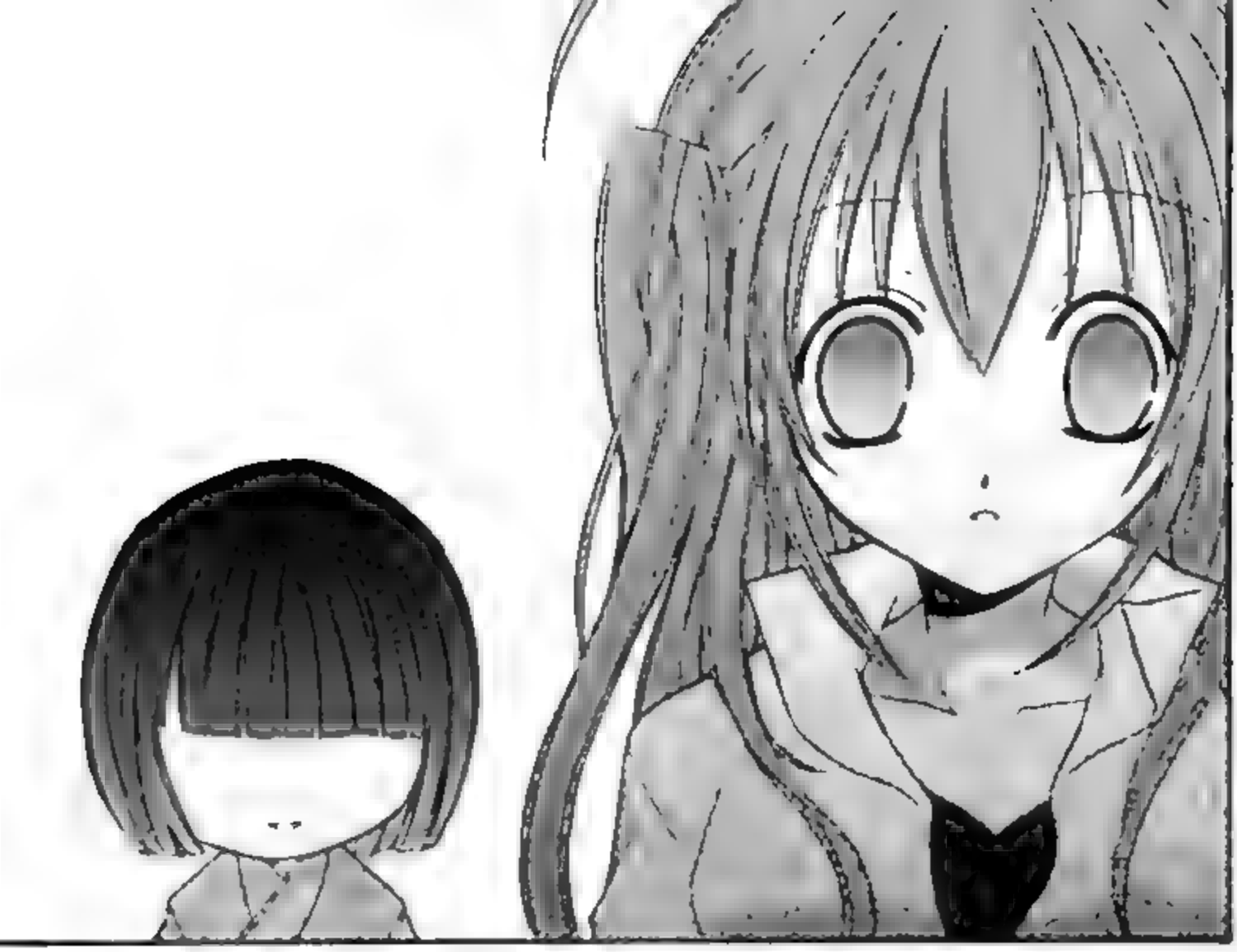
?
BUT I'M QUITE SURE SHE'S 16 YEARS OLD NOW.
She's still a cute little girl
NO, SHE'S STILL YOUNG SO..
AS YOUR MARRIAGE PARTNER!
SHE'LL BE COMING BACK SOON SO HOW ABOUT MEET-ING HER?

YOU MIGHT NOT TAKE MY WORD FOR IT, BUT SHE'S QUITE A BEAUTY.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

ONEE-CHAN


Really
THE YOUNG-STERS NOWADAYS ARE SO HASTY
ふぅ



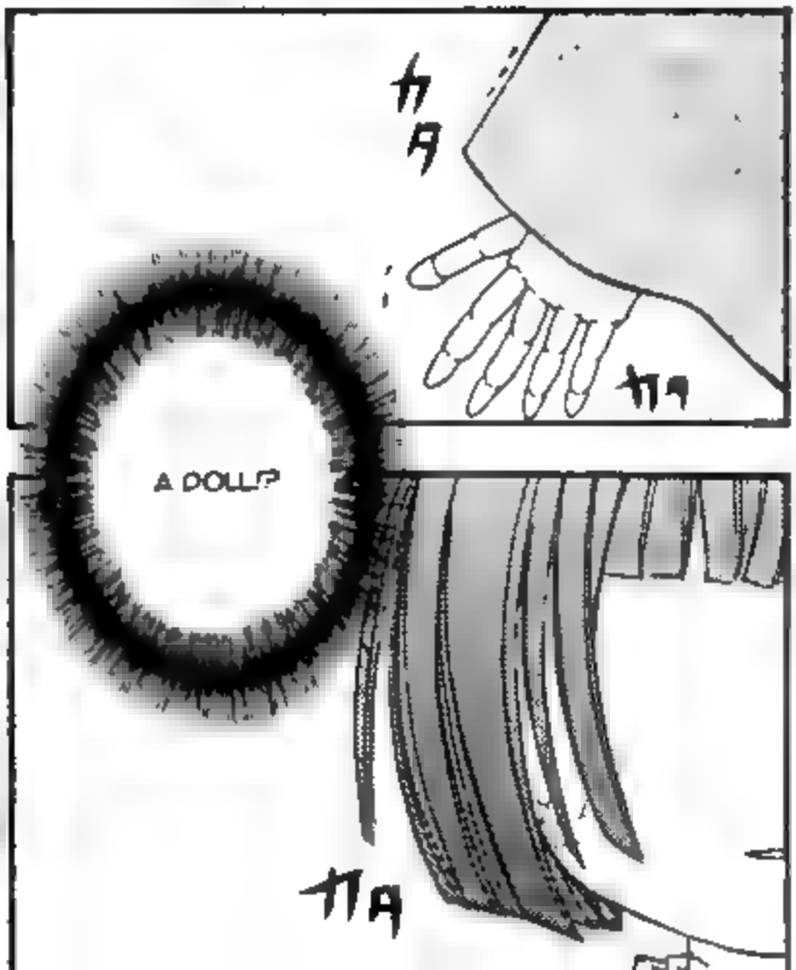
I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.

MEI!
!
...

DON'T MOVE!
!
BECAUSE I'VE FOUND A GOOD RECEPTACLE AT LAST
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO ME!?

!
YOU'RE...
NOTHING..
YET.

THAT DOLL WASN'T AMONGST THE ENTRUSTED ITEMS TODAY


A DOLL?

ONII-CHAN
BUT IF IT'S A DOLL, IT SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SPEAK SO SOON.
UGH
HEHE
PLEASE... DON'T BURN ME...

!!
MY, HOW CARE-LESS...
THIS IS BAD
DAMN

ヤバい!!
!!
GUHHHHHH
HOW NAIVE.
WHO WOULD SHOW THEIR WEAKNESS TO A SMALL FRY LIKE THAT?

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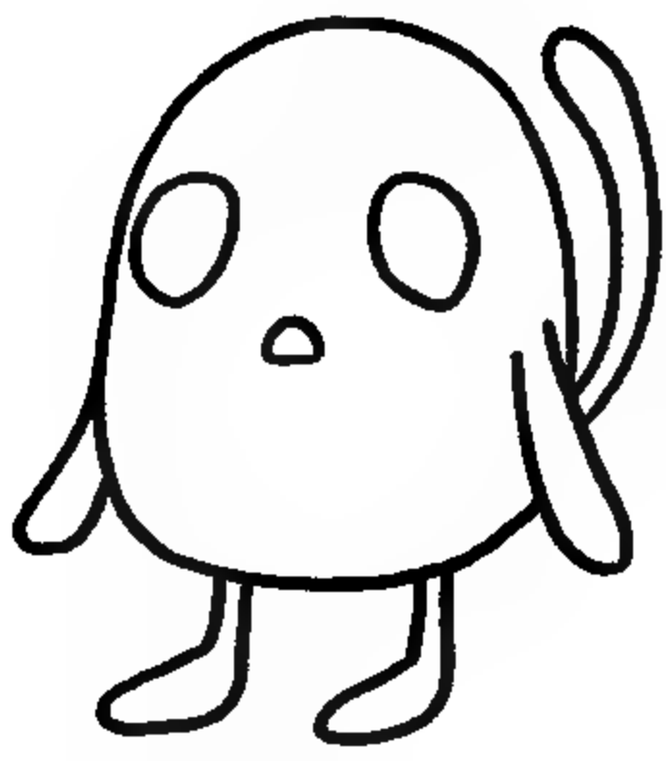
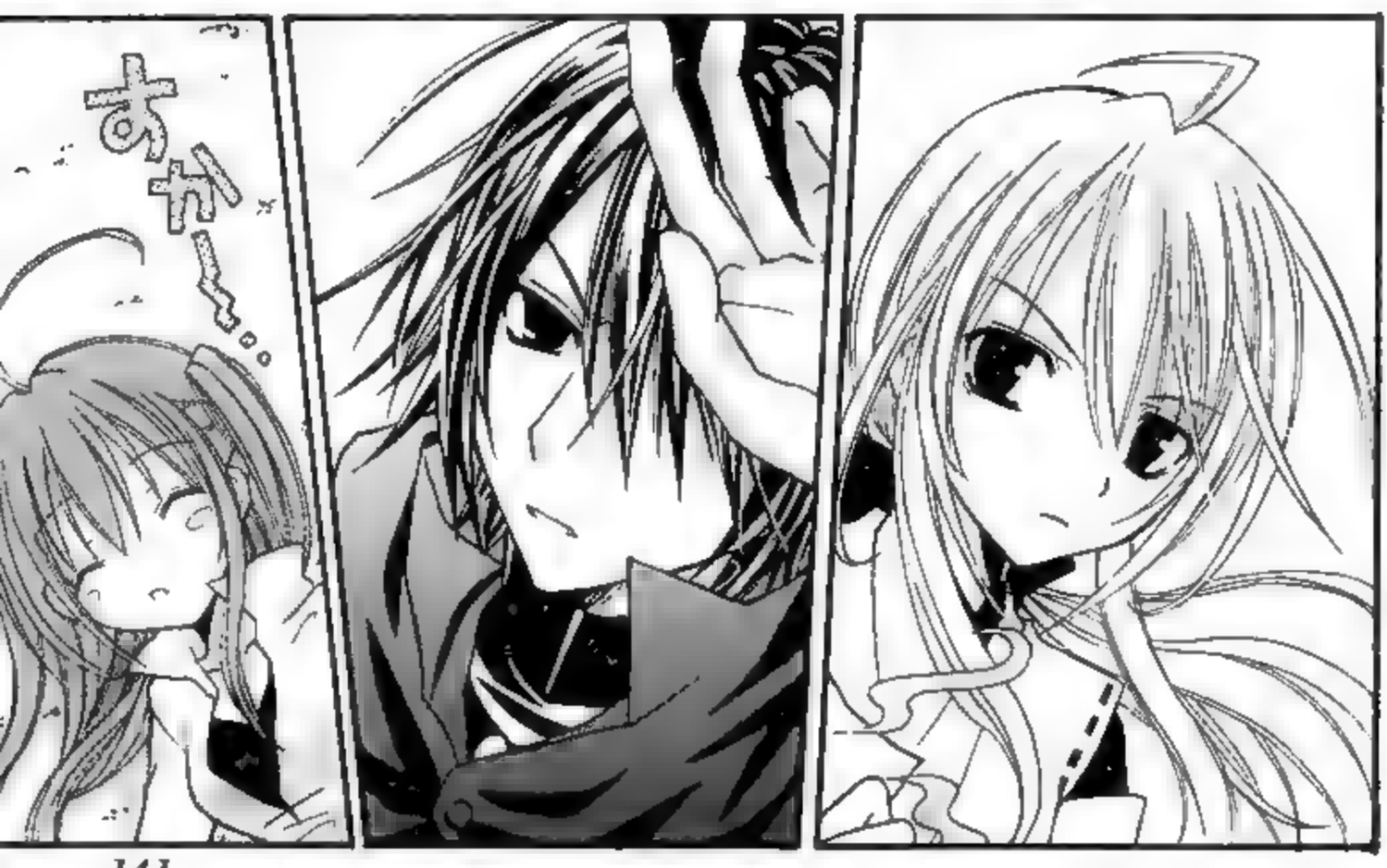


Gensokyo Projects
東京★インセント
Tokyo★Innocent
Translator: Hikarusama, jou_jou
Editor: Crescentvn
Proofreader: helikaon
QC: helikaon, tt2ung
Raw Provider: sub0
GENSOKYO@IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET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Chapter 4 A Woman's Heart and the Last Day of Vacation

A LITTLE WHILE AGO THE PRIEST RECOMMENDED YOU AS A BRIDE
!
COULD IT BE THE PRIEST'S GRAND-DAUGHTER ?
!
?
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
WHAT!?
A BRIDE!?
EEEK!

UWAHHHHHH!
ズザザザザザザ
ベきっ
ぐちゃ
!?

ARRANGING MARRIAGE PROPOSALS WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT ANYBODY ELSE IS A BAD HABIT OF GRANDPA'S.
DON'T TAKE IT SERIOUSLY!!
OUCH... MY LEG...
ぱっ

ARE YOU OK?

SHE CERTA NLY IS BEAUTIFUL BUT..
IT'S NOTHING. DON'T WORRY.
I NOTICED THAT THIS DOLL DISAPPEARED FROM THE STOREHOUSE YESTERDAY,
SO ALL DAY TODAY I SEARCHED THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD BUT I GUESS IT NEVER LEFT THE SHRINE
ACCORDING TO GRANDPA'S STORY
IT CAME HERE AFTER ITS OWNER THREW IT AWAY AND HAS BEEN WEATHER-BEATEN FOR A LONG TIME
BECAUSE OF THAT IT ENDED UP BECOM NG A YOUKAI PRETTY QUICKLY
WHAT A PITY.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THAT DOLL?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
I'LL PURIFY IT AND LAY IT TO REST PROPERLY LATER
BUT BEFORE THAT
WHAT WERE YOU DOING HERE AT A TIME LIKE THIS!?
HUH?
IF YOU'RE A YOUKAI YOU SHOULD KNOW!

IT'S FOOLISH TO LOITER AROUND HERE WITH A HUMAN DURING THE "TIME OF DISASTER".
A SHRINE IS A SPIRITUAL BARRIER WHERE THE COMING AND GOING OF YOUKAI IS INTENSE.
AND TO TOP IT OFF YOU'RE WEAK!

※ **Time of Disaster**

On the borderline of daytime and evening around sunset the rate of youkai appearance is high.

I SUPPOSE PLACES WITH NOBODY AROUND WOULD MAKE GOOD LOCATIONS FOR DATES AFTER ALL...
WHY JUST THE OTHER DAY ON THESE SACRED GROUNDS SOME YOUNG PEOPLE WERE.
FOCUS!
SHE'S REMEMBERING ALL SORTS OF THINGS

SOMETHING SEEMS TO BE MISUNDERSTOOD HERE.
THANK YOU
YOU SAVED ME BACK THERE

COULD YOU TELL ME YOUR NAME?
ISN'T IT POLITE TO TELL ME YOUR NAME FIRST?
IT'S HANZOU
HANZOU ?
CHITOSE
WRITTEN LIKE "1000" AND "AGE"
IT'S CHITOSE
THAT'S A GOOD NAME.
IT SOUNDS LIKE SHE'LL HAVE A LONG LIFE.
A GOOD NAME...
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT.

LET ME SAY THIS NOW I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY INTENTION OF SAVING YOU.
I DON'T NEED YOUR FLATTERY.
NO, REALLY.. THANK YOU.
ふん
I'M GLAD SHE'S SAFE
ANYWAY, EVEN THROUGH ALL THIS COMMOT ON SHE DOESN'T SHOW ANY SIGNS OF WAKING UP AT ALL.
IT MUST BE A TALENT OF HER SPECIES
HE'S STARING AT HER REALLY SERI-OUSLY
感ジ…
IS THAT GIRL REALLY THAT IMPORTANT?

?
SHE'S IMPORTANT
きっぱり
She's my landlord's little sister at the moment.
THIS GUY SAYS IT SO BOLDLY... NO SHAME
ゞ
I..I SEE.
SO THEY HAVE THAT TYPE OF RELA-TIONSHIP AFTER ALL.
THIS IS BAD SHE TOLD ME WE WOULD MEET UP AND HEAD HOME BEFORE DINNER
I GUESS IT'S ABOUT TIME TO GO BACK
MEET UP?
DO YOU TWO ALWAYS EAT DINNER TO-GETHER?
LOVE-BIRDS...
はっ
AH, WELL BECAUSE WE LIVE TOGETHER
同棲!!?
LIVING TOGETHER!?

NO! THAT CAN'T BE IT! THIS GUY'S JUST SPECIAL.
DO YOUKA NOWADAYS HAVE NO SENSE OF VIRTUE?
IN THIS AGE... SO INDIFFERENTLY...

YOU SKIRT-CHASER!!
WHY!?

H-HEY.

You hired that guy!?
?

? ?

I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED AT ALL.

ON TOP OF THAT, I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW I GOT HOME.
HANZOU-KUN CARRIED YOU.
OH?

THERE SHOULDN'T BE!
FALLING ASLEEP OUTS DE ...GEEZ...
THERE ARE TIMES LIKE THAT.

That's not good. You can't carry a girl like
BUT HANZOU-KUN..
CARRIED YOU EXACTLY LIKE HOW YOU WOULD CARRY A CARCASS FROM A HUNTING TRIP SO I WAS A BIT SURPRISED
IS THAT SO?
DON'T GET MAD!
THIS GUY HAS ZERO ILL INTENT!!
YOu WERE LIGHT COMPARED TO THE BEARS AND WILD BOARS BACK ON THE ISLAND
ま!
DON'T GET MAD..
I'M SORRY I MUST'VE BEEN HEAVY
I'LL GO TELL SUZUKO-SAN THAT YOU GUYS ARE HOME.

SO WHAT HAPPENED?
HMM?

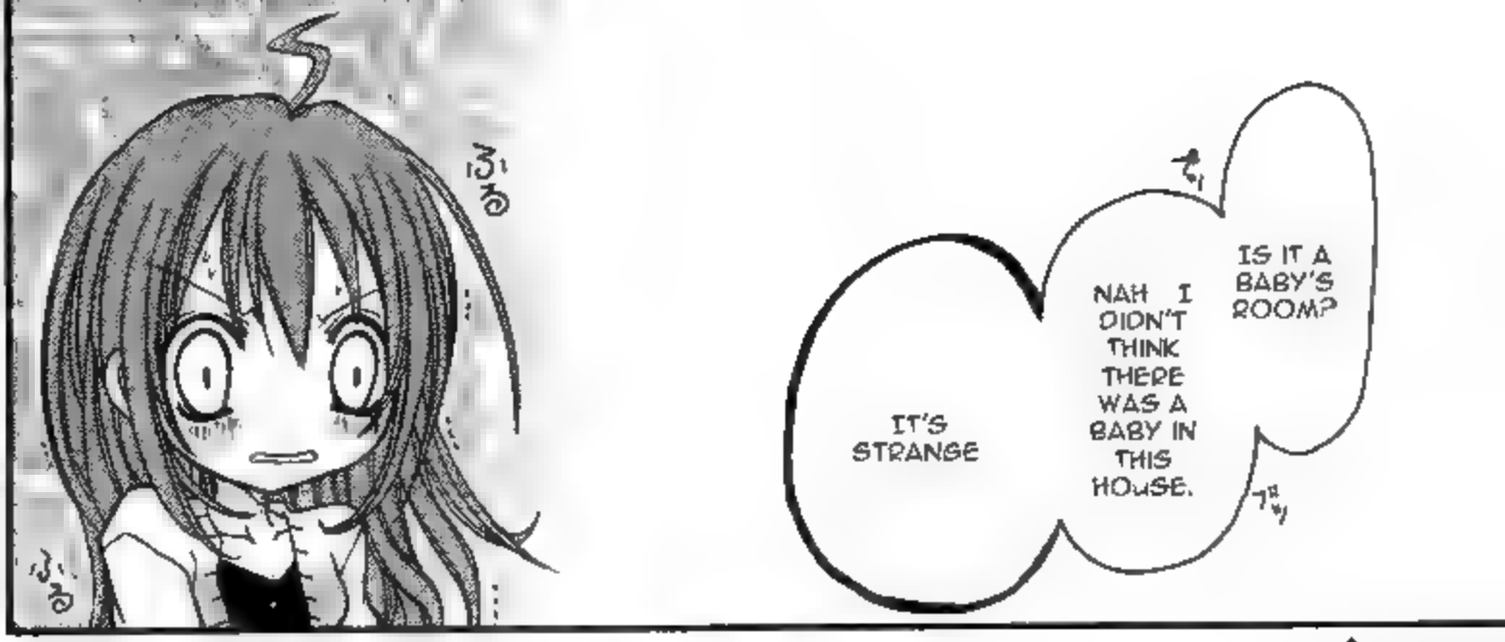
WHAT HAPPENED WHEN I WAS ASLEEP?
AND NO HIDING ANYTHING!
あい

DID I CAUSE TROUBLE FOR YOU AGAIN?
.....

IT REALLY WAS NOTHING.
DON'T WORRY.
I SEE.

YOU SEEM MORE ENERGETIC THAN ANYTH NG ELSE.
ぼーす
BECAUSE I SLEPT A LOT!
YOu HAD ME ALL WORRIED!
WHAT? I THOUGHT SOMETHING HAPPENED AGA N W TH YOJKA.
MEI
HM?
AH THAT'S GREAT!
I CAN NOW OFFI- CIALLY WORK THERE
OH YEAH! HOW D D WORK END UP?

OH?
MORE IMPORTANTLY SOMETHING'S BEEN BUGGING ME THIS WHOLE T ME ..
WHAT IS IT?
NAH NEVER MIND.
ぷい
THIS ROOM WITH CHILDISH TASTES... WHAT ROOM IS IT?

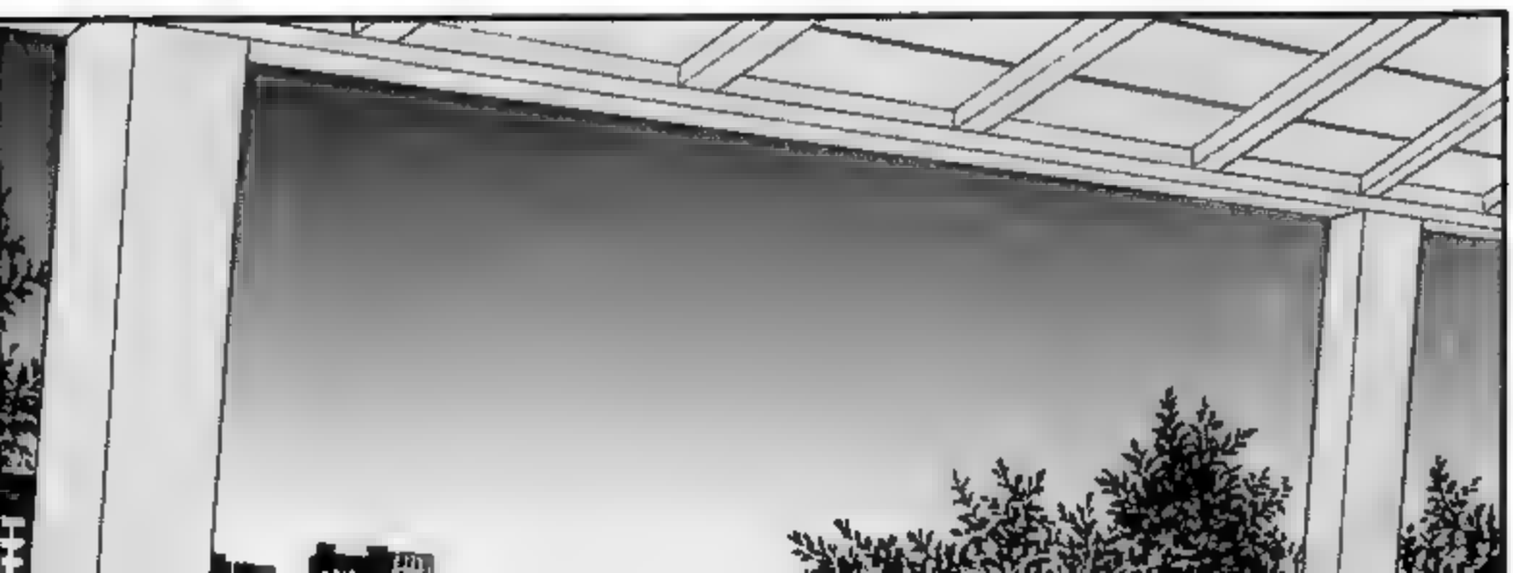

IS IT A BABY'S ROOM?
NAH I DIDN'T THINK THERE WAS A BABY IN THIS HOUSE.
IT'S STRANGE

SO SORRY IT'S CHILDISH!
IT'S MY ROOM!!

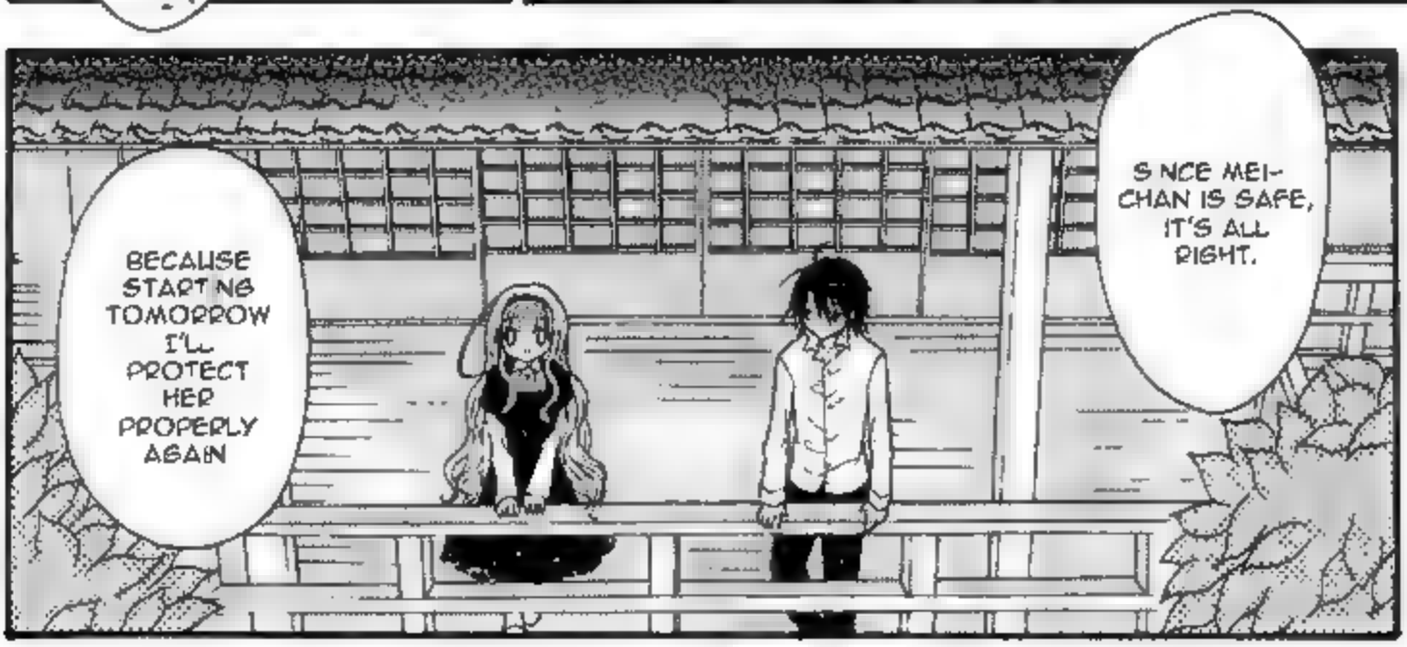
AND I HAD JUST STARTED TO THINK BETTER OF HIM...

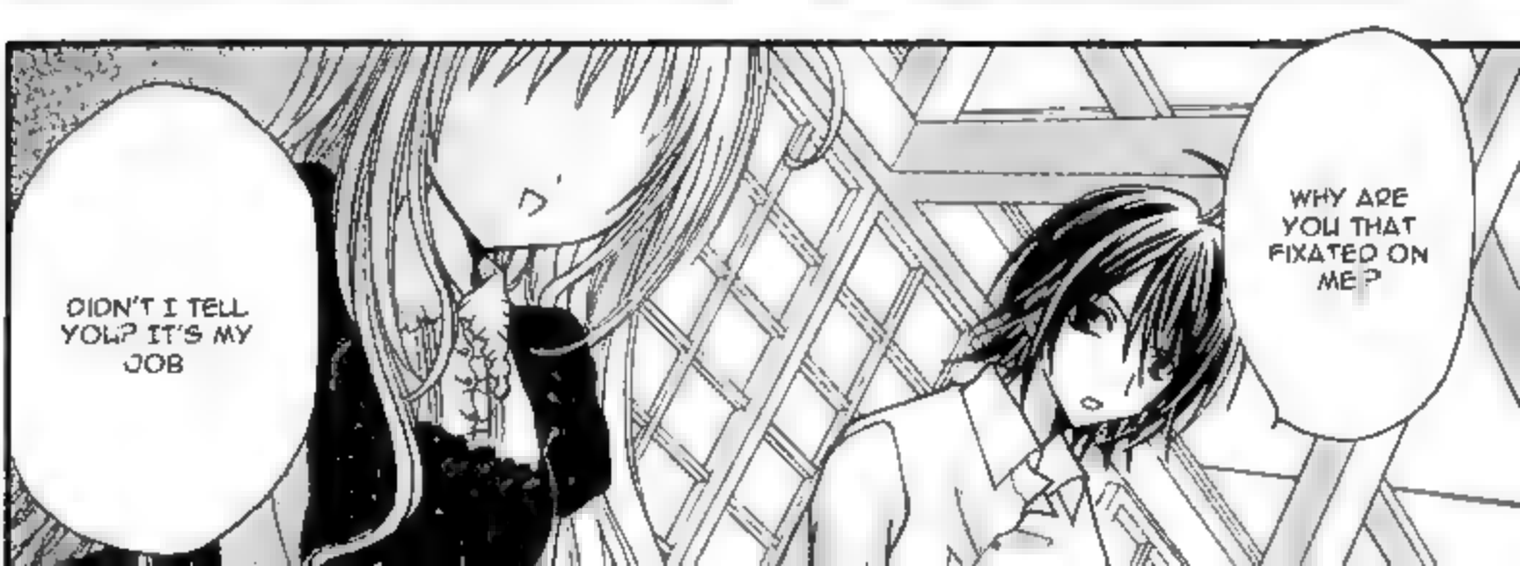
I JUST DON'T GET IT
UNDER-STANDING A WOMAN IS COMPLICATED
あっ
IS THAT A HAIKU?
TRANSLATOR NOTE: A HAIKU IS A SHORT JAPANESE POEM OF 3 LINES.

CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A BIT?
あ。



HANZOU-KUN, THAT CUTE DOLL REALLY CAUGHT YOU UNPREPARED DIDN'T SHE?
I'M ASHAMED.
SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED?


BECAUSE STARTING TOMORROW I'LL PROTECT HER PROPERLY AGAIN
SINCE MEI-CHAN IS SAFE, IT'S ALL RIGHT.


DIDN'T I TELL YOU? IT'S MY JOB
WHY ARE YOU THAT FIXATED ON ME?

IS THAT REALLY ALL THERE IS TO IT?
YOU AREN'T HIDING ANYTHING?
DOESN'T THAT GO FOR YOU TOO?
DON'T GIVE IT THAT MUCH THOUGHT.
OF COURSE MY WORK IS EXTERMINATING YOUKAI, BUT
I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY, HANZOU-KUN
INSTEAD, IT'S LIKE I JUST STARTED A NEW LIFE IN A NEW PLACE WITH NEW COMPANIONS, ISN'T IT?
COMPANIONS?

YUP!
COMPANIONS!
EXORCIST
YOUKAI
I SEE.
COMPAN ONS HUH?

YOU HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD.
A WOMAN'S HEART WHATEVER IT IS. I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND IT AT ALL TODAY.
ON TOP OF THAT YOU MADE ME-CHAN MAD AGAIN DIDN'T YOU?
あっまー

SO ANYTIME YOU'RE TROUBLED BY SOMETHING COME TO ME.
WELL I'M ALREADY FULL OF PROBLEMS

YOU SAY IT SO DIRECTLY.
HANZOU-KUN..
YOU'RE THE TYPE OF GUY WHO MANAGES TO SAY UNNECESSARY THINGS IN SPITE OF NOT SAYING ENOUGH
Seems to be typical of Japanese men in cities...

THERE REALLY WASN'T ANYWAY AROUND THAT
I DON'T TELL HER WHAT REALLY HAPPENED BEFORE
PLUS I LIED TO ME!..
BESIDES
YOU LIED BECAUSE SHE'S IMPORTANT TO YOU RIGHT?

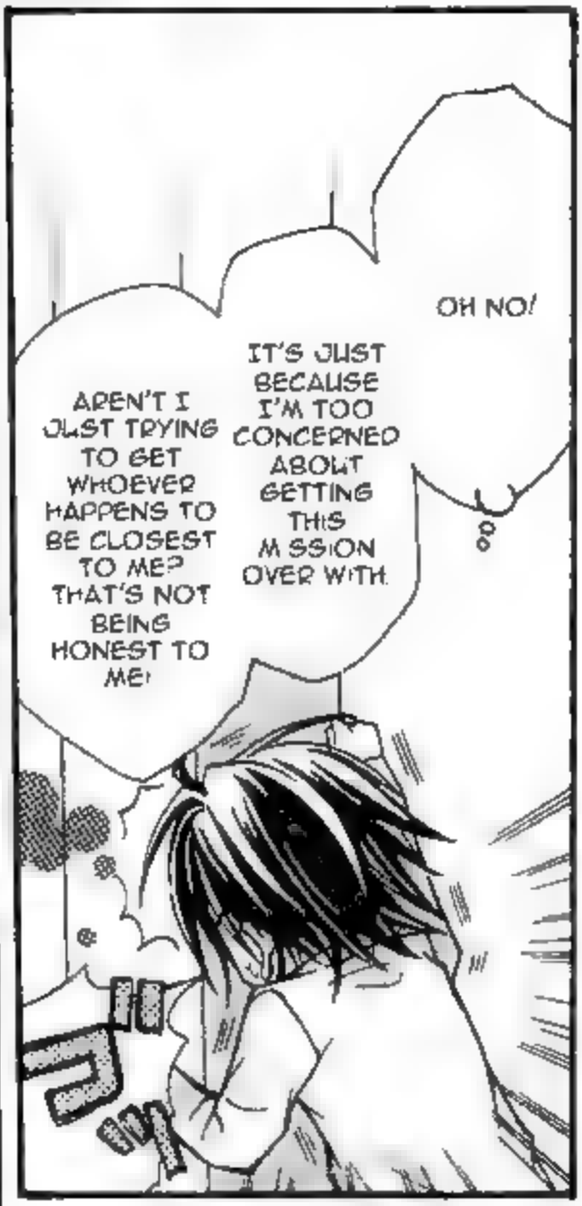
IMPORTANT?
MEANING YOU LIKE HER.
I LIKE MEI-CHAN TOO.
OF COURSE I LIKE YOU
AND SUZUKO-SAN TOO!
Not listening

IT'S OK!
SINCE IT'S MEI-CHAN THE NEXT T ME YOU SEE HER IT WILL BE BACK TO NORMAL.
CHEER UP!

IS THAT IT?
I LIKE HER?

DINNER WILL BE READY SOON SO WHY DON'T YOU HEAD DOWNSTAIRS
.....

THAT'S NOT RIGHT! I AM THANKFUL FOR WHAT SHE DOES FOR ME EVERYDAY
I REALLY AM.
THAT'S IT! I'M GOING TO TELL HER HOW I REALLY FEEL!
I WON'T BE THAT GUY WHO DOESN'T SAY WHAT'S ON HIS MIND!


OH NO!
IT'S JUST BECAUSE I'M TOO CONCERNED ABOUT GETTING THIS MISSION OVER WITH.
AREN'T I JUST TRYING TO GET WHOEVER HAPPENS TO BE CLOSEST TO ME? THAT'S NOT BEING HONEST TO ME!

ぱー
OH? WHAT HAPPENED?
MEI-CHAN, IT'S JUST ABOUT TIME FOR DINNER.

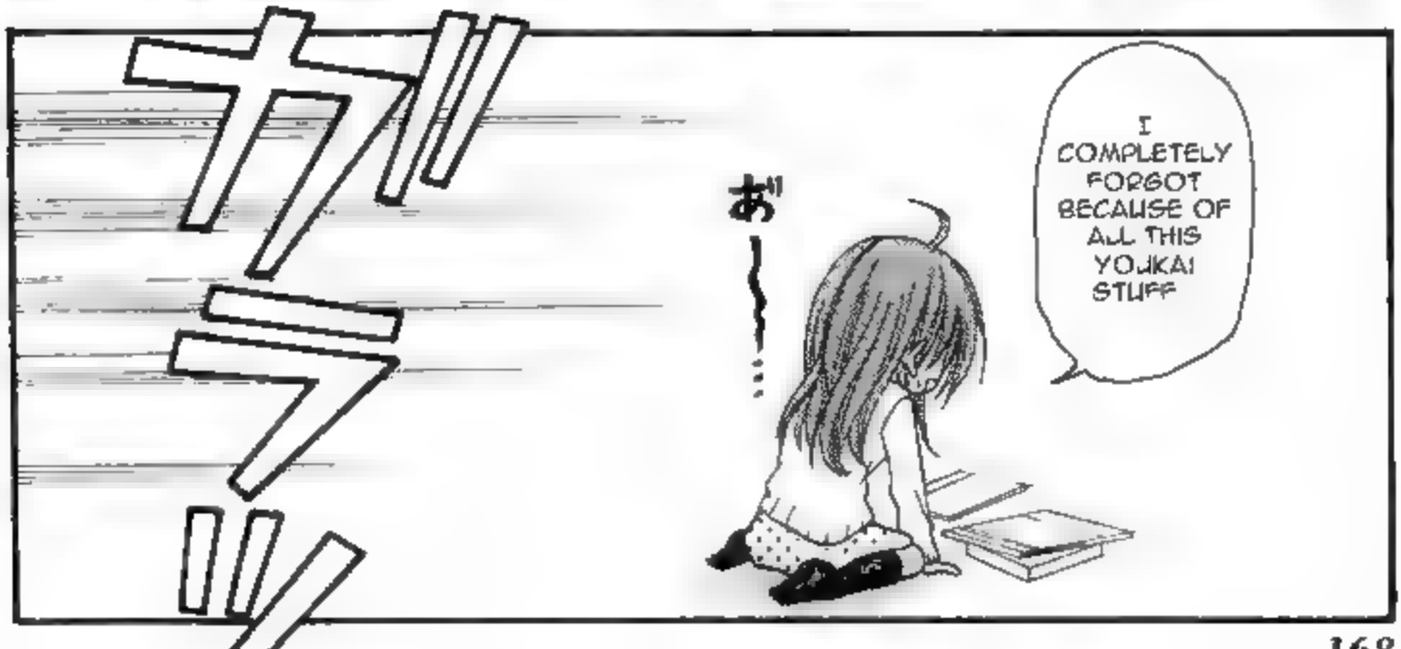
SOMEHOW,
THAT GIRL I MET ON THE SHRINE GROUNDS BEFORE I PASSED OUT.
SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN A YOUKA..
I WAS JUST THINKING..

AHHHH GEEZ STOP THINKING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TODAY!!
EVEN STUPIDLY HONEST HANZOU LIED ABOUT IT.
HE'S JUST TRYING TO NOT TO SCARE ME
BUT I STILL FOUND OUT!
ME-CHAN, HANZOU-KUN IS
I KNOW!

BUT...
IT MADE ME A LITTLE HAPPY...

AHH. BUT I'M JUST ANXIOUS FOR SCHOOL TO START TOMORROW
YOU SAID TOMORROW?
YUP TOMORROW SCHOOL STA..
!

I HAVEN'T DONE ANY OF MY HOME-WORK!
CRAP!!


I COMPLETELY FORGOT BECAUSE OF ALL THIS YOUKAI STUFF
お〜〜!!

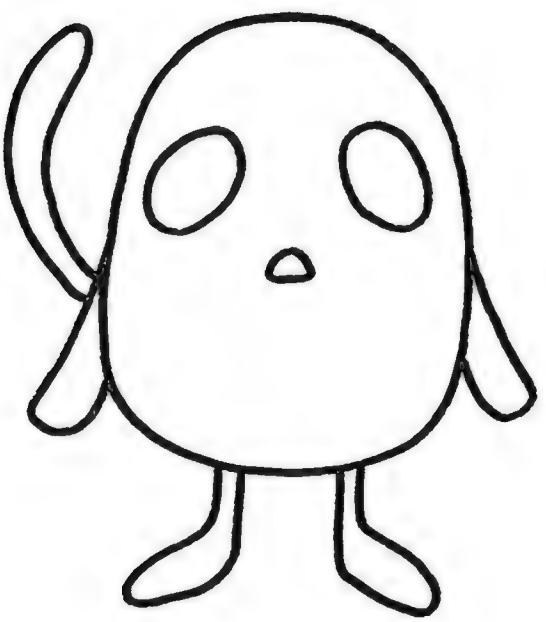
MEI
I'M SORRY FOR EARLIER
...HANZOU
LISTEN TO MY FEELINGS
ギラッ

TELL ME SOME OTHER TIME!
SORRY BUT I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW!!

AT ANY RATE

BURSTING INTO A GIRL'S ROOM W/THOUT KNOCKING... YOU REALLY ARE HOPELESS

SCHOOL STARTS TOMOR-ROW...
I'LL TRY AGAIN NEXT TIME



Tokyo☆Innocent 6

Naru Narumi presents

Cleaner: Manicpinwheel
Typesetter: fiva55

visit us at #hyena-scans@irc.higway.net or
hyena-scans@live.com

translator: Toolshed113
raw: c_k

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I'm not drawing this for any reason...

Mei: 4 years old

IT NEEDS SOMETHING ELSE...
YOU CAN'T FINISH IT?
HMM..
IT'S ALL RIGHT
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN'T DO
LOOK! LOOK!
I DREW A PRETTY PICTURE
自信満々
WHAT KIND OF YOUKAI IS THIS?
IT'S NOT A YOUKAI!!
IT'S A BUNNY!
むーっ
OH?
THIS IS VERY NICE.

A Few Hours Later

ALL DONE?
READ IT! READ IT!
YOU WON'T LIKE IT. YOU ALWAYS CRY.
I WONT CRY!
.....
ALL DONE!
ねむい
ぴこぴこ
AH!!
RIGHT IN FRONT OF HER EYES... THE GHOSTLY PALE AND DEADPAN FACE OF A WOMAN...
HELP ME...
MEI-CHAN
Evil
SHE HEARD A GROAN COMING FROM THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM AND WHEN SHE LOOKED UP...
THERE WAS A LITTLE GIRL WHO WAS HOUSE SITTING ALL BY HERSELF...
"the Legend of Youkai City" was less...
ぽんっ
IT'S OK MEI.
I'M SORRY...
I WENT TO FAR..
WAHHHH! SHE SAID MEI!

EVEN IF A SCARY YOUKAI COMES
ONEE-CHAN WILL PROTECT YOU.

REALLY?

About 10 years later ...
She knows her older sister's limits
YOU LEFT THINGS LYING AROUND AGAIN!!
THROW TRASH AWAY!
WHAT?
I CAN'T DO ORDINARY CHORES!!
THERE'S NOTHING ONEE-CHAN CAN'T DO!
THAT'S RIGHT.
???

☆ この度は「東京★イノセント」第1巻をお手にしてくださって本当にありがとうございました。
"恋愛がテーマの妖怪モノ"を描きたくて始めた初の連載作品です。今だに雑誌に掲載されているのを見ても「ホントに自分の描いた話って読んでもらえてるのかなー…？」とかドキドキしてしまいます。

それがこうして単行本にまとめていただけることになったのも読者の皆様のおかげです。

あとがき

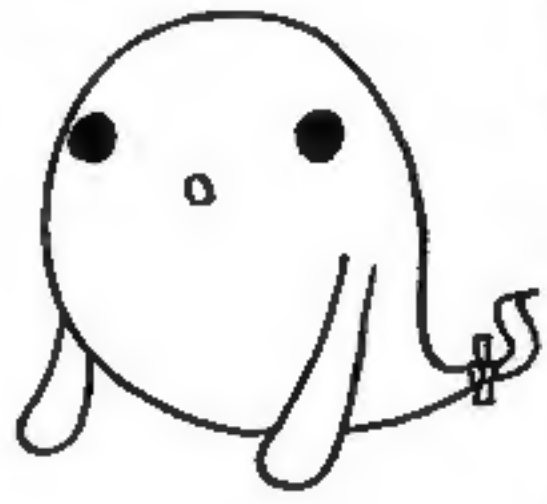
☆ それからいつもお手紙を下さる方、お返事が遅れてしまっていてごめんなさい。

お手紙はすべてありがたく読ませていただいてます。
本当に励みになります。宝です。

イラスト添えて下さる方もいてすごくうれしいです。

☆ 2巻はラブコメ要素がより強くなっております。

連休が明けて学校に通います。キャラクターもちょっとだけ増えます。（女のコも男のコも妖怪も）



よろしければ次巻以降もおつきあいいただけたら幸いです!!

☆ 最後に質問・感想・要望、その他諸々ありましたらこちらへお願いします。

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GANGAN WING COMICS

東京★イノセント

1

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●発行人●
田口浩司

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〒151-8544　東京都渋谷区代々木3-22-7　新宿文化クイントビル3階
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